



JACK STEPHENS INTERVIEW

BACK FOR GOOD

**Saints centre back on
how he plans to make
the position his own**

JACK Stephens admitted he knew this season was his "last chance" at Saints – but is now setting his sights on a permanent spot at centre-back after taking his big opportunity.

The 23-year-old had spent time out on loan at Swindon, Middlesbrough and Coventry and, last summer, his St Mary's dream looked to be hanging by a thread, *writes Peter Howard*.

"In pre-season I did feel like this was my last chance to really show what I can do at this football club," he said.

"Obviously with the new manager coming in he did say to me that there's a lot of things I need to work on to be able to play in his team.

"I went away to do that and I feel like I've improved and I'm grateful for the chance I'm getting."

The Cornishman made his Saints debut in an FA Cup game in 2012, but *Continued on page 5*



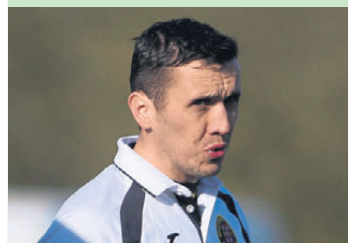
**Saints v Chelsea
classic matches
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of Hampshire
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PREMIER LEAGUE

CHERRIES 4 MIDDLESBROUGH 0



Cherries' Charlie Daniels (centre) celebrates scoring the fourth goal.

MIDDLESBROUGH edged closer to relegation to the Sky Bet Championship after losing 4-0 at Bournemouth following their latest limp display.

In a match they desperately needed to win to boost their ever-diminishing chances of beating the drop, Boro were level for less than two minutes and collapsed thereafter.

Victory at the Vitality Stadium, followed by a further three points in the game in hand they are yet to play, may just have been enough to revive their season.

Instead, one day after the shock death of club favourite Ugo Ehiogu, another loss of a different kind became the latest miserable turn under caretaker manager Steve Agnew, who has overseen four defeats and two draws since his appointment.

The result, which was worsened by the dismissal of Gaston Ramirez, also takes Bournemouth to the relative safety of 12th, where they are seven points clear of the bottom three with four games to play.

The ease with which the hosts took the lead did much to demonstrate why it is Middlesbrough look certainties for relegation.



Benik Afobe scores Cherries' second goal.

Their near-uncontested build-up on the left wing created space for Marc Pugh to cross to Joshua King, who from in front of goal and similarly under minimal

pressure routinely finished low beyond Brad Guzan.

If Agnew had given Middlesbrough any belief before kick-off, it quickly vanished from then,

after which Bournemouth's fluid football posed a constant threat.

In the 16th minute further poor defending led to their second. Uncertainty in possession on the

edge of the area invited Harry Arter to dispossess Adam Clayton, and when the loose ball fell to Benik Afobe, he struck beneath the onrushing Guzan and into the

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PREMIER LEAGUE



AFC Bournemouth's Joshua King celebrates his goal.



Middlesbrough's Adam Clayton lies injured.



Ryan Fraser battling for the ball.

back of the net.

Bournemouth almost immediately again threatened, when Pugh's classy backheel played in King, but the forward sent his shot over the crossbar.

The frustrated Ramirez had already been booked for diving after an earlier challenge from Adam Smith when in the 20th minute he lunged in on the lively Pugh and was given a second yellow card by referee Graham Scott, effectively taking a comeback beyond his team.

By the 29th minute, when Marten de Roon forced a fine diving save from Artur Boruc when shooting ambitiously from mid-field off the bounce from Alvaro Negredo's knockdown, the greatest question surrounded the margin of Middlesbrough's defeat.

Bournemouth played with patience, and had again threatened through Ryan Fraser when in the 65th minute Pugh extended their lead. A fine pass from substitute Lewis Cook played in Pugh, who from inside the area curled across the face of goal and into the bottom right corner.

Their finest goal was also their last. After a 70th-minute free-kick was laid off to Charlie Daniels on the edge of the area, the left-back showed exceptional footwork to skip past Clayton before drilling low into the same corner as Pugh.

Middlesbrough's five remaining fixtures come against Sunderland, Manchester City, Chelsea, Southampton and Liverpool. After Bournemouth left them 19th, and nine points from safety, there looks no way back.



Benik Afobe celebrates with Joshua King.

Berg left on 99 as Hants make 455

Hampshire vs Yorkshire, Ageas Bowl

GARETH Berg was left stranded on 99 – as Hampshire were bowled out for 455 after grinding down Yorkshire on day two at the Ageas Bowl.

Berg batted intelligently during the afternoon session putting on substantial tail end runs with Reece Topley and Brad Wheal.

He had been dropped on 43 by Adam Lyth but continued to bat Yorkshire further out the game with his 89-ball half century.

He was ably assisted by firstly Topley – who reached his highest first-class score for the second time in two innings for Hampshire.

He scored 16 before Adil Rashid had him lbw – following a 41-run stand with Berg.

Berg continued, and smashed a huge six over long on, in a frustrating 68-run partnership with Wheal.

But Wheal fell on 13 when he edged Joe Root to Lyth to bring tea and the end of the innings.

As the Sports Pink went to press, Hants had reduced Yorkshire to 19-4, with Berg taking three of those, including England captain Joe Root, caught behind for eight.

Fareham's win ensures survival

FAREHAM guaranteed National Hockey League survival when they beat Indian Gymkhana 3-1 in their crucial relegation play-off match in front of a bumper Henry Cort crowd this afternoon.

They effectively secured their victory with first half goals by James Evans and a Jamie Rawlings penalty corner.

Indian Gymkhana clawed a goal back during a period of sustained second half pressure.

But a third goal by Evans midway through the second half settled it for Fareham, although goalkeeper George Harris twice saved a twice taken penalty stroke late on.

The result means that Fareham will play in the Western Conference alongside newly promoted neighbours Havant next season.

PINK

PREMIER LEAGUE

Hammers take a point

West Ham 0 Everton 0

WEST Ham held Europa-League chasing Everton to a dull goalless Premier League draw at the London Stadium.

In a game of half-chances, Manuel Lanzini's goalbound second-half effort was the closest any of the two sides came to finding a goal.

With the share of the spoils, the point takes Everton above Arsenal into sixth-place but the Gunners have three games in-hand over their Merseyside rivals. Meanwhile, West Ham edged closer to safety as they remain in 13th place, seven off the drop zone.

West Ham made four changes to the side that drew at Sunderland with Adrian, Winston Reid, Havard Nordtveit and Jonathan Calleri - who made his first Premier League start for the club - coming in for Darren Randolph, suspended Sam Byram, injured Andy Carroll and Robert Snodgrass.

Meanwhile Everton, Maarten Stekelenburg replaced Jose Robles in goal.

A clumsy miskick from Adrian, making his first Premier League



Bilic and Koeman.

start since November, almost gifted Everton the lead after failing to clear the ball under the challenge of Kevin Mirallas. The Spaniard would, however, recover to retrieve the ball.

In a scrappy opening, the first shot on target came after 28 minutes as Nordtveit's long-range effort was comfortably gathered by Stekelenburg.

Cheikhou Kouyate was the next West Ham player to try his luck from distance but his strike sailed wide of the post.

With Slaven Bilic's side set up in a 5-3-2 formation, Everton struggled to find their attacking rhythm with the home side's defence paying close attention to leading Premier League marksman Romelu Lukaku, who went into the game with an impressive record of scoring in nine consecutive games against the Hammers.

Having been run ragged by Lanzini for much of the first-half, Tom Davies and Idrissa Gueye were replaced by Ademola Lookman and Gareth Barry for the second half.

Another half-chance went begging for Ronald Koeman's side late on as substitute Dominic Calvert-Lewin also produced the perfect cross for Lukaku but it sailed over the head of the Belgian.

A last throw of the dice from West Ham in the final 10 minutes saw a corner find Fonte at the back post but his header was saved by Stekelenburg.

Tigers' two goals in 10 minutes seal win



Oumar Niasse leaves the pitch

Hull 2 Watford 0

LAZAR Markovic and Sam Clucas struck second-half goals as 10-man Hull kept their Premier League survival hopes alive with a gutsy 2-0 home win against Watford.

The Tigers overcame the controversial first-half dismissal of striker Oumar Niasse to score two brilliant goals in the space of nine minutes just after the hour mark through Markovic and Clucas to stay two points clear of the relegation

zone with four games to play.

Hull's bid for survival had been dealt a massive blow when referee Robert Madley showed Niasse a harsh straight red card in the 25th minute, but their 10 men showed real fight after the break and stormed to a sixth win in seven home league games under head coach Marco Silva.

Silva's men swept forward in some style to take the lead in the 62nd minute.

Kamil Grosicki was set free down the right and his fine cross

was headed against the crossbar and down on to the goal line by Markovic, who followed up to shoot home the rebound.

The KCOM erupted and the home fans had barely calmed down when Clucas smashed home Hull's second goal nine minutes later.

Abdoulaye Doucoure's clearance from Grosicki's corner fell to Clucas 25 yards out and the midfielder unleashed a vicious, dipping drive beyond Watford goalkeeper Heurelho Gomes and into the top corner.

Llorente on target in Swans victory

Swansea 2 Stoke 0

SWANSEA stopped the rot with a 2-0 victory over Stoke but remain in the bottom three of the Premier League.

Fernando Llorente's early header and a deflected Tom Carroll second-half strike gave Swansea their first win in seven games and lifted some of the gloom around the Liberty Stadium.

Swansea were given a huge helping hand when, with the score at 1-0, Marko Arnautovic blazed his 69th-minute penalty high over the crossbar and into the disbelieving Stoke supporters behind the goal.

But Hull remain two points clear of Swansea in 17th place after beating Watford by the same scoreline on Humberside.

That was a game Swansea boss Paul Clement had predicted Hull would win, so his message was for his players to take care of their own business and end a desperate run of one point from six games.

Stoke's England goalkeeper Jack Butland started for the first time since fracturing his ankle on international duty 13 months ago.

But Butland had a torrid time in the first half and was beaten after 10 minutes when Llorente met Gylfi Sigurdsson's corner for his 12th goal of the season.

Llorente came in for heavy criticism for his sprinting at Watford last weekend - or rather the lack of it - but the Spanish striker has made a career out of his aerial ability rather than his pace.

And Llorente proved his worth when he escaped the attention of Ryan Shawcross to divert Sigurdsson's corner past Butland.

Sigurdsson was the starting



Stoke City's Glen Johnson attempts a header on goal.

point of every Swansea attack, revelling in a more central role after Clement had reverted to a diamond formation.

Swansea lost some momentum when Leroy Fer limped away from the action, but they were still the better side and it was not getting any easier for Butland.

The goalkeeper had to pick himself off the floor following a heavy collision with Jordan Ayew and was then almost caught dawdling on the ball in his box.

Swansea themselves were guilty of switching off when their former midfielder Joe Allen was allowed room to cross and Saido Berahino made a hash of a header to open his Stoke account.

Ayew almost embarrassed Butland with an angled shot, but

Stoke should have equalised with the final attack of the first half.

Xherdan Shaqiri flighted his far post free-kick on to the head of Peter Crouch, but Berahino could not make the most of an inviting knock-down with a tame header straight at Lukasz Fabianski.

It was a similarly frantic affair after the restart with Federico Fernandez directing a header at Butland and Stoke slowly getting on the front foot.

Crouch had two shooting opportunities, one blocked and the other a tame effort collected by Fabianski - and Swansea's caution was evidenced by a change in formation.

The tiring Llorente trudged off to be replaced by Dutch defender Mike van der Hoorn, with the dia-

mond system replaced by one that resembled 5-3-1-1.

It was a decision that might have cost Swansea when Shaqiri was bundled over in the box by Fernandez - but Arnautovic's spot-kick was wild.

Swansea doubled their lead within 60 seconds when Carroll's shot deflected off the unfortunate Allen and over the helpless Butland.

Carroll might have had another moments later when he scampered through but he was denied by a flying Butland save, the improving goalkeeper then standing tall to thwart Ayew at his near post.

But the damage had already been done by then as Swansea coasted home.

PINK

SAINTS

'I feel like I'm doing myself justice now'

Peter
Howard



Continued from front page

had to wait nearly five years for his second appearance, which came at right-back in the EFL Cup win over Sunderland back in October.

Stephens followed that up with a decent display at Everton at the beginning of the year as an early substitute for Cedric Soares, before proving himself at central defence in the FA Cup against Norwich.

Then, with Jose Fonte departing in January and Virgil van Dijk suffering a long-term foot ligament injury, Saints boss Claude Puel threw the England Under-21 international in at the deep end.

He has since kept his place next to Maya Yoshida at the heart of Saints' backline for 12 successive games, keeping experienced defender Martin Caceres, the former Barcelona and Juventus man who arrived as a free agent in February, out of the team.

Stephens is now planning on keeping his place for good.

"It's definitely my aim," he said. "It's going to be very difficult, of course, because we've got some very good players here and I'm sure there will be a few arrivals in the summer."

"But it's up to me to perform as best as I can and keep improving and try to keep my place in the team."

So how does he become a permanent fixture at the back for Saints?

"By showing signs of development, showing signs of learning and I think being a consistent performer in the team," he said.

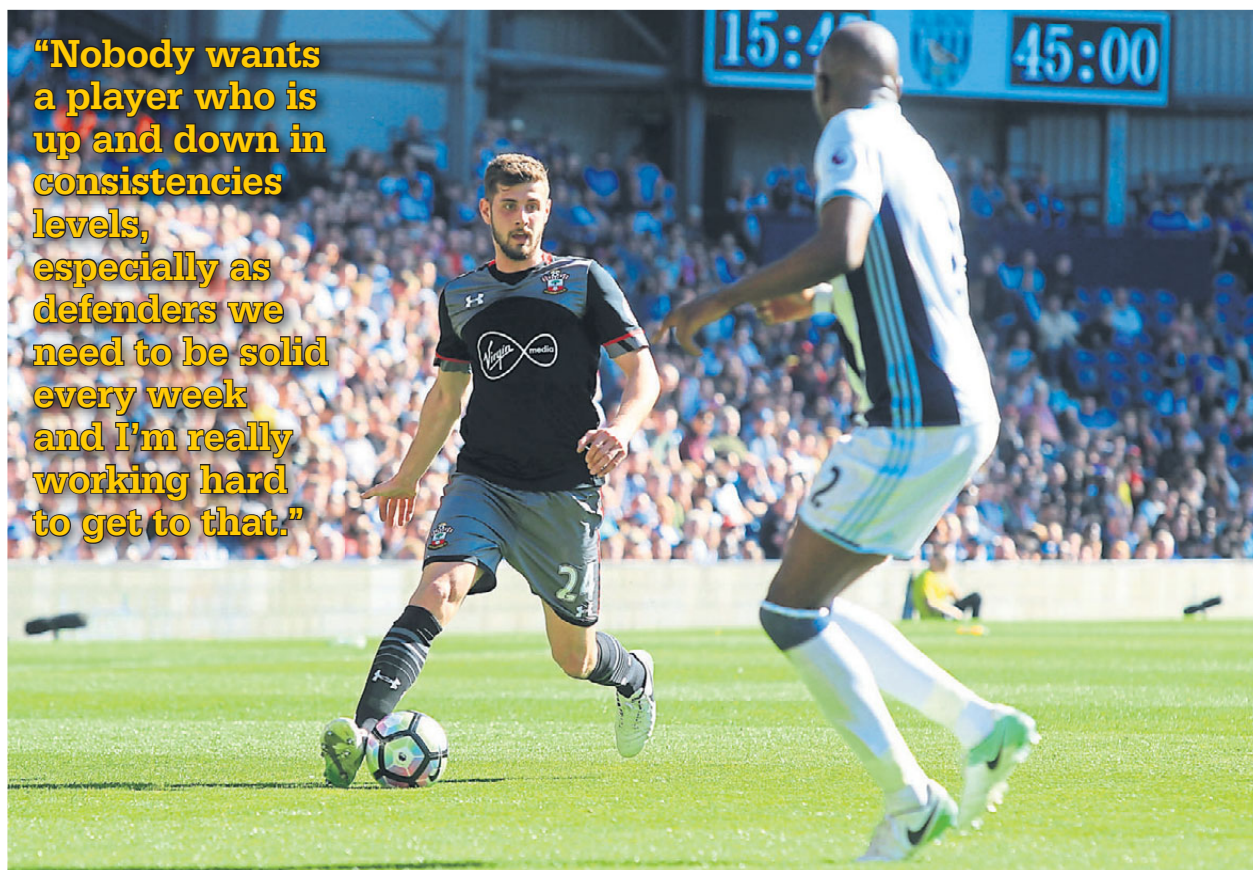
"Nobody wants a player who is up and down in consistencies levels, especially as defenders we need to be solid every week and I'm really working hard to get to that."

He added: "I knew at the start of the season that it was going to be hard for me to break through and get game time."

"But the manager said if I'm patient, work hard at my game, then I'll get opportunities."

"It's fair to say I've had more opportunities than I expected, but I feel like I'm doing myself justice now and I've earned myself chances to play in the team."

"Nobody wants a player who is up and down in consistencies levels, especially as defenders we need to be solid every week and I'm really working hard to get to that."



Jack Stephens in action against West Brom

Stephens believes that he and Yoshida are developing into a trustworthy partnership at the back.

"Maya and I have become stronger as a unit and that comes from playing games and being used to being next to each other and learning each other's games," he said.

"The only way you can do that is playing games next to each other."

"We were disappointed to concede against Manchester City (in the 3-0 defeat), especially after having been on a run in which we kept two clean sheets in three games."

"That was disappointing and we spoke about it after the game ... it's something we don't want to happen again."

"We feel stronger, there's a bond between me and Maya and hopefully we can continue that."

Injured captain Van Dijk has also taken Stephens under his

wing, taking time out from his recovery from injury to help the rookie defender.

"Virgil's been fantastic to me all season, even when he was playing next to Jose Fonte they were both very helpful towards me and helped me in improving as a player," he said.

"Since his unfortunate injury he's been great and we speak after games. He'll send me a text if he's watched the game."

"It's nice to have someone of his quality to look up to and help me improve."

Puel has not only giving Stephens, who arrived from Plymouth Argyle in 2011, his chance this season, with fellow academy men Sam McQueen and Josh Sims also making an impact.

The Torpoint-born defender admits having a manager who is willing to put faith in youth is very positive for the club.

"It's great for young players because you can see there's light at

the end of the tunnel," he said.

"Sometimes you're working so hard and you feel like you're not getting anywhere, but you can look at other players who have broken through and you can see there will be opportunities if you work hard and are ready for them."

"It's important for all the young players at the club to be able to see us coming into the first team ... it gives everyone hope."

Stephens revealed that he feels like he's really flourishing in his new prominent role after initially feeling a bit off pace.

"When you first come into the team there are little mistakes," he said. "No matter how fit you feel you're going to be rusty when you come into the team having not played for so long."

"The more games you play the more familiar you become with your surroundings and I've felt more comfortable in the last four or five weeks and hopefully I can

keep building my performances."

He continued: "There's going to be times when you have a bad game or you don't feel like you've had a full impact on the game, but I've been fairly happy with my performances."

"When I first came into the team at centre-back there were a couple of little errors which I was disappointed with because I set high standards for myself."

"It's something I take pride in that I want to be the best I can be and I feel like I'm improving now."

Stephens doesn't plan to dwell too much on any of his performances this term.

"There's not much time to think about it because there's plenty of games and especially in the next four or five weeks we've got a lot of tough games, so there's not a lot of time to reflect on how I've been doing," he explained.

"I'll save that for the end of the season."

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PREMIER LEAGUE

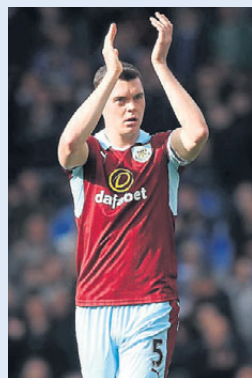
Don't be so Keane

MICHAEL Keane's suitors have been warned by Sean Dyche that Burnley hold all the cards when it comes to the defender's future.

Dyche insists nothing has changed in relation to the 24-year-old England international, despite a report earlier this week suggesting he would be moving on from Turf Moor this summer.

Everton's interest in the centre-back, whose deal runs out in 2018, was made public by Ronald Koeman during January and Dyche has already stated he is prepared for other admirers to step forward once the window reopens.

Yet Dyche insists the notion it is a certainty that he will be depart this summer is alien to him and he believes Burnley will approach any negotiating table with a strong hand



Burnley's Michael Keane

given their financial situation.

"I actually got told via a TV screen apparently that he will be leaving, that was news to me as a manager. The reality is that nothing's changed," he said.

"If there was (interest from other clubs), it would only be something that we control. We're a different animal than what we were a few years ago, we're in a very strong situation now - the club financially, the way the business side is run. We can make those decisions when it's appropriate to do so. We're certainly not under any consideration of our players leaving at this moment in time.

"We're in control. He's under contract, people do forget that.

"He's officially under contract. He equally knows the appropriate time when we will speak."

Mourinho calls for Rashford to be moved up



Marcus Rashford

JOSE Mourinho believes it would be illogical for Marcus Rashford to play for England Under-21s this summer, saying it does not make sense for the Manchester United teenager to "drop levels".

There has been precious little let-up for the 19-year-old striker since he broke onto the scene so remarkably 14 months ago.

Rashford's outstanding displays for United saw him fast-tracked into the England squad for Euro 2016 and there is now talk of him heading to this summer's Un-

der-21 European Championship.

Press Association Sport understands the Football Association has yet to make a concrete decision one way or another on the matter and will pick it up with United towards the end of the season.

Rashford's availability was always going to be down to circumstance and Mourinho believes the fine way he is ending the campaign means the striker has moved beyond the under-21s.

"I don't want to go in that direc-

tion," he said when asked about the championships in Poland.

"I just feel that when a player reaches a certain level, it doesn't make a lot of sense to drop levels.

"It's like now I am going to play in the under-23s to win, let's say a derby against Man City? No.

"Nicky Butt doesn't take him to play that game.

"He could by age, so when you reach a certain level — and he's reached that level for a long time — I don't think it makes sense, but the power is in their hands."

Ron's small squad in European bid

EVERTON manager Ronald Koeman is unconcerned about the prospect of balancing the demands of European and domestic football without a huge squad.

With his side guaranteed seventh place plans can start being made for a return to the Europa League after a two-year absence.

However, Koeman has no intentions of bolstering his squad with a huge number of new arrivals in the summer in order to cope with the increased demands and will instead look to manage his resources.

"I know what we would like to do but we will wait to see if it is possible," said former Saints boss Koeman, who been linked with summer raids for Virgil van Dijk and Cuco Martina, who is out of contract at St Mary's at the end of the season.

"We know we will have competition from bigger clubs and it will be difficult but the direction Everton is running in and what we did for this season and what we would like to do for the next is an interesting project.

"We did a session Thursday morning with 17 outfield players; most of the teams they have 24, 25, 26 players.

"I am not the sort of manager to have that number of players because it is really difficult to keep the spirit in all the players when they don't have any possibility to start.

"It is better to use young players."

Koeman tasted the Europa League with Saints when he led the club into the qualifiers in 2015, but failed to make the group stages.

That European campaign began on July 30 and Everton face a similar prospect should they not



Everton manager Ronald Koeman is ready for European football

improve on their current seventh place.

"It is good for the club, the fans and for the experience of the players," he added.

"We know it is Thursday evening-weekend (matches) but we will try to have a strong squad for next season.

"We know now at least we have

finished seventh in the table and that is normally qualification rounds for the Europa League so we have to be prepared in the number of players to battle."

PINK NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Spitfires lose on last away game

Solihull 2 Eastleigh 0

EASTLEIGH'S final away game of a rollercoaster National League season did not go to plan this afternoon.

The Spitfires were well below par in a 2-0 defeat at relegation-battling Solihull Moors having guaranteed themselves top-flight survival last weekend.

This time it was Solihull's turn to breathe a mighty sigh of relief as first-half goals from Regan Charles-Cook and Simeon Maye ensured that they too will be staying up.

With first-choice goalkeeper Graham Stack struggling with an elbow problem and young Portsmouth loanee Nick Hall also injured, the Spitfires drafted in Josh Barnes on an emergency loan from Derby County.

It took just 11 minutes for the young debutant to be beaten although, in fairness to Barnes, there was precious little he could do as Solihull seized the lead with a quality goal from on-loan Charlton midfielder Regan Charles-Cook.

The 20-year-old ex-Arsenal academy player took aim from all of 25 yards and unleashed a peach of a strike into the top corner.

Twelve minutes later, the off-colour Spitfires slipped two goals into arrears when they were caught out from a corner.

Jack Byrne flicked it on at the near post and, with Eastleigh failing to deal with the danger, Simeon Maye rose to head home.

Having scarcely mustered a chance in the first half, the Hampshire visitors created only a couple of openings in the second – Hakeem Odoffin heading off-



Hakeem Odoffin had a chance for the Spitfires in the first half.

target from Michael Green's free-kick and fit-against Portsmouth loanee Ben Close firing wide.

The greater threat came from Solihull with the excellent Omari Sterling swivelling and lashing a shot against the bar with 48 minutes gone.

On 68 minutes, it needed a superb saving tackle from Gavin Hoyte to prevent Sterling going through one-on-one with Barnes and the Eastleigh woodwork was shaken again two minutes into

stoppage time when a thunderous Harry White shot smashed back off the bar.

Eastleigh will round off the season at home to Wrexham next Saturday with a 12.15pm kick-off.

Winchester end season with defeat

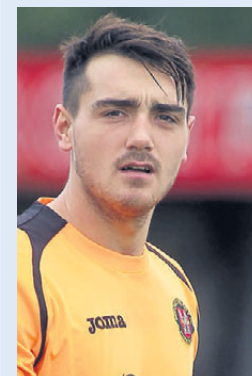
HEREFORD 4 WINCHESTER CITY 0

IN FRONT of a crowd of 4,125 Winchester suffered a 4-0 defeat against a Hereford team who were celebrating their successful season in style.

Winchester, playing their final match of the season against champions Hereford, welcomed back Stuart Green and Adam Tomasso into the starting line-up.

They fell behind in the tenth minute when a penalty was awarded for a foul on Mike Symons and John Mills converted the resulting penalty.

Lewis Noice did well to save an effort from Jimmy Oates at the expense of a corner.



Lewis Noice made some good saves

Winchester then hit the bar but, on the half-hour, they fell further behind when Jamie Edge scored from just outside the penalty area.

Noice also made a good save from Rob Purdie.

Winchester forced a couple of corners in quick succession but were still two goals down at the interval.

Half-time: Hereford 2 Winchester City 0

The goals in the second-half both came from headers in the 57th minute, man of the match Jimmy Oates headed home and 24 minutes later it was the turn of substitute Bradley Williams scored with his head.

Winchester kept battling to the end but they seldom threatened to have a goal in the second-half.

Hereford had all the chances in the second-half and Louis Noice saved well from John Mills.

Final-day defeats for Totton and City



Nathaniel Sherborne.

AFC TOTTON and Winchester City both suffered last-day disappointment in the Southern One South & West.

Totton were beaten 4-2 at home by fifth-placed Evesham United, while Winchester lost 4-0 at champions Hereford in front of 4,125 Edgar Street crowd.

Evesham raced into a 3-0 half-time lead at a sunny Testwood Stadium with Mark Magee scoring twice – the first from the penalty spot – before Carl Brown added another.

Having had a Nathaniel Sher-

borne header acrobatically saved, Totton clawed their way back into the game.

Sherborne made it 2-1 with a 79th-minute penalty awarded for handball and when Curtis Young slotted home after Alfie Whittingham's shot had been parried by the keeper, a late comeback looked on.

But four minutes into stoppage time, Evesham's Paul Fahy found the bottom corner to put the result beyond doubt.

Winchester's hopes of putting a damper on Hereford's title cel-

ebrations came to nought.

Howard Neighbour hit the crossbar after John Mills had fired the Bulls ahead from the penalty spot, but further goals from Jamie Edge, Jimmy Oates and Bradley Williams left City well beaten.

There was good news though for Salisbury who made sure of a second-placed finish with a 1-0 win at Bideford.

Once again, Tommy Wright emerged as the hero, scoring his 50th goal in all competitions and his 39th in the league.

PINK

NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Jesse striking Gould

JESSE Gould was a man on a mission last weekend.

The attacking midfielder scored twice against his old club Blackfield & Langley, bringing Bashley back from a goal down for a 2-1 Sydenhams Premier Division success.

When ex-Saint Jamie White fired Blackfield into an early lead, it looked as if it might end a dismal run of four games without a win for the third-placed visitors.

But eight minutes later Bash were level as another Blackfield old boy Hugh Dathan crossed to Kabba Jack. He slipped the ball in to Harry McGrath and the youngster returned it across the box for the onrushing Gould to net from 12 yards.

Having hit the angle of bar and post through McGrath, Bash lost skipper Brad Morris to a second yellow card on 65 minutes following a long-running battle with Blackfield's Steve Walker.

That, though, did not stop the ten men going on to bank all three points in front of a 233 Easter holiday crowd, boosted by a 'Kids Go Free' offer.

Following a foul by Walker, Gould - named man-of-the-match - caught both the defensive wall and B&L goalkeeper Brad Snelling off-guard with a precision free kick.

Dan Munday, yet another of Bashley's ex-Blackfield crew, had the ball in the net a minute later, but it was disallowed for offside. The same player then later brushed the bar not long after Bash defender Tony Rolls had kept the crowd richly entertained, running the length of the pitch only to scuff his shot on arrival.

Blackfield, who had already seen Liam Robinson miss a sitter, might have levelled at the death, but spring-heeled Bash 'keeper Joe Coombes kept out a close-range header from Kane Daysh.

It ensured Bashley completed a season's double over Glenn Howes' men, having triumphed 4-0 at Gang Warily in mid-November.

Blackfield, who had started the season with high hopes of a top-two finish, were just two points ahead of fourth-placed Sholing going into today's final round of games.

St Mary's date set for Hampshire Senior Cup

THE 2016/17 Hampshire FA Senior Cup final has been fixed for Tuesday, May 2 (7.45pm) at Saints' St Mary's Stadium.

This year's county showpiece pits Terry Brown's Basingstoke Town side against the Mark

Molesley's AFC Bournemouth Under-21s.

The young Cherries will be looking to avoid a repeat of 2013 when they were upstaged 3-2 by Sydenhams Wessex League outfit Alresford Town at the Vitality

Stadium.

Basingstoke, who have finished mid-table in the Southern Premier Division, last lifted the trophy in 2014 when they beat Havant & Waterlooville on penalties. Tickets, priced £10 adults

and £5 concessions, will be available to purchase on the evening. For any enquiries relating to the cup final, please contact Info@HampshireFA.com and include 'Hampshire FA Senior Cup Final' in the subject line.

Davis lays plans for next season

Wendy Gee



CRAIG Davis has vowed to give Winchester City fans "a squad to be proud of" after landing the manager's job for next season.

Davis, who had been scheduled to join City as head coach for 2017/18, arrived earlier than planned last month following the sacking of Ian Saunders.

He was initially appointed player-boss until the end of the current campaign and, despite some early teething troubles, has done enough to convince chairman Paul Murray and director of football Dave Malone that he is the man to take the club forward in the Southern One South & West.

Losing four and drawing one of his first five games in charge, without scoring a goal, is not the start Davis had dreamed of when he severed his ties with Fleet Town to take on the City challenge.

But, with the transfer deadline having passed, it was never going to be easy.

The time to judge him, he insists, will be next season when he has had a chance to mould the squad as he wants it.

Relishing the task in front of him, Davis said: "I'm very proud to be named as manager on a full-time basis.

"I know results have been far from ideal, but I don't think anyone can disagree that the last two performances (1-0 defeats to Tiverton and AFC Totton), in particular, have been impressive and extremely unfortunate.

"The club have seen the shoots of recovery on the pitch and there are a lot of plans in place for next year. At the end of the day, I am going to be judged on next season.

"Rest assured, we will have an extremely fit, very well prepared side with a hunger to improve and play with some style.

"We have had advanced talks with a number of players from



Winchester City's director of football Dave Malone

various sources and we will have a squad to be proud of."

Confirmation of Davis's appointment came hot on the heels of Easter Monday's defeat against Hampshire rivals Totton which typified how City's luck has deserted them of late.

To Totton's immense credit, their young, scratch side defended like their lives depended on it and one piece of magic - a 50-yard wonder goal from Stags' player/

assistant boss Adam Wilde - pocketed them the points.

A statement released by Malone afterwards said: "Following our excellent performance today (despite the result) we are pleased to report that Craig Davis will be our manager for the 2017/18 season.

"We appreciate that results under Craig have thus far been disappointing, but we have every confidence that he will bring much-needed quality and stabil-

ity to the club in time for the start of the new season.

"Watch this space for news of several new signings, which will most certainly enhance our current squad.

"We trust and hope that true City supporters will understand and support our decision to appoint Craig and be fully behind him in his quest for success."

● Got a non-league story? Send it to echosport@dailyecho.co.uk.

PINK NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

City boss notices huge differences

Wendy Gee



HAVING played and managed in both Division One Central and Division One South & West this season, Craig Davis is better equipped than most to weigh up the comparative strengths of the Southern League's second tier.

And in the eyes of Winchester City's new player/boss, the Central Division is streets ahead with the quality of football on offer.

That flies in the face of quite a common local perception that the South & West is the superior league of the two.

Davis, who has spent the best part of the last two seasons managing in the Central Division with Fleet Town, now finds himself back in the South & West with Winchester.

Last weekend he led City to Tiverton Town, one of the sides vying for the South & West play-offs.

Far superior

And while Tivvy ran out slender 1-0 winners to ramp up their promotion quest, Davis insists teams in the Central Division's top bracket are generally far superior to their cross-league counterparts.

"I don't think the South & West is a patch on the Central Division – nowhere near," insisted the former Bashley, AFC Totton and Gosport Borough midfielder.

Things could change

"Every year a handful of new teams could improve or water down either league, so things could change, but if I compare Tiverton to the Central League's third, fourth or even eighth-placed teams this season, the Central is far better.

"It's a different style in that league with loads of pace and more inventive football as opposed to the physical element you get in the South & West.

"I know people will disagree but, across the board – (bottom club) Petersfield aside – the Central Division is strong.

"The second worst team are Histon and they went to (second-placed) Farnborough last week and only lost 2-1 and had a late penalty saved.



Winchester City boss Craig Davis

"Genuinely there are no mugs in the Central Division and if Winchester were in that league I'd be very excited.

"But if I can amalgamate a bit of that with what we have at Winchester, we should be a bit of a force."

Levi Landricombe's 43rd-min-

ute goal proved the difference at Tiverton, but Davis felt City were the better side.

"They were third or fourth in the league and we went with a threadbare squad, but we were superior," he said.

"They're a big, physical side and we went down there with a

tiny team. I was probably our tallest player – and I'm not that tall.

"But we were outstanding. It was as good a performance as we could have wished for and it will give us a lot of confidence for next season.

"We're trying desperately to play good football."

Football fixtures

Tuesday, April 25

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE
Dover v Macclesfield, Maidstone v Lincoln.

ISLE OF WIGHT GOLD CUP

Semi-final: Cowes Sports v Binstead & Cob (at Newport IoW FC, 7.30pm)

SALISBURY HOSPITAL CUP

Semi-final: Shrewton v Bemerton HH.

HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Combination Cup, semi-final: Bush Hill Res v Winchester Castle Res (at Stockbridge FC, 7.45pm).

Wednesday, April 26

ISLE OF WIGHT GOLD CUP

Semi-final: Newport IoW v Whitecroft & Barton (at Cowes Sports FC)

Saturday, April 29

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE
(all 12.15pm) Aldershot v Braintree, Barrow v Dover, Chester v Boreham Wood, Dagenham & Redbridge v Woking, Eastleigh v Wrexham, Gateshead v Bromley, Guiseley v Solihull Moors, Macclesfield v Sutton, Maidstone v Tranmere, Southport v Lincoln, Torquay v North Ferriby, York v Forest Green.

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH

(all 3pm) Bath City v Welling, Bishops Cleeve v Truro, East Thurrock v Wealdstone, Eastbourne Borough v St Albans, Ebbsfleet v Oxford City, Gosport Borough v Whitehawk, Hampton & Richmond v Concord, Hemel Hempstead v Weston-super-Mare, Hungerford v Chelmsford, Margate v Maidenhead, Poole Town v Dartford.

Monday, May 1

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE CUP FINAL

Baffins Milton Rovers v Sholing (at AFC Portchester, 3pm)

Tuesday, May 2

HAMPSHIRE FA SENIOR CUP FINAL
AFC Bournemouth U21s v Basingstoke Town (St Mary's Stadium, 7.45pm).

RUSSELL COTES CUP FINAL

Gosport Borough v Bemerton Heath Harlequins (7.45pm)

Wednesday, May 3

SOUTHAMPTON SENIOR CUP FINAL
Sholing v Team Solent (St Mary's Stadium, 7.30pm)

● ROMSEY Town polished off their Sydenhams One away campaign with a 1-1 mid-table draw at AFC Stoneham.

Dan Fox rounded off a flowing eight-man move to head the Bypass Boys in front, but their lead was nullified from the penalty spot ten minutes into the second half.

Romsey's Josh Harvey was adjudged to have pulled Will Harris's shirt and up stepped Stoneham's Ashley Ledger to send Jordan Westbrook the wrong way from 12 yards.

While Romsey boss Andy Samuels would have taken a point before the game, he said: "I'm disappointed we couldn't convert all our possession into chances.

"I thought we were the better side but without really threatening."

PINK

NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Future uncertain

HE has just guided his side to the Sydenhams One club-of-the-month award for March, but Bradley Asagba admits he has an uncertain future.

The Weymouth Reserves boss was this week waiting to find out about his role at the club as the Terras prepared to name a successor to first-team manager Jason Matthews.

"The bottom line is, I don't know," said Asagba in the wake of Easter Monday's 1-1 draw with Alton.

"Obviously there is a lot of upheaval at the club and, hopefully from the club's perspective, that's going to be resolved this week.

"Whether the new manager wants me or whether I can work for the new manager is completely



Bradley Asagba

up in the air at this point. In terms of next season, who knows?"

Weymouth's second string, promoted last term from the Dorset Premier League, have finished mid-table with 64 points from their 40 league games played.

● Shane Sheridan celebrated his permanent appointment as New Milton Town manager with their biggest Wessex One win for 18 months.

Adam Louka's double helped Linnets on their way to a 6-1 victory over struggling Pewsey Vale at Fawcett's Field.

Craig Barnett, Dom Falco, Ethan Maddocks and Lyam Teixeira were also on target as Town bounced back from behind after Eden Bunce's opener.

It was also a special day for 17-year-old Maddocks, who was handed the captain's armband for the first time by Sheridan.

Lowe and behold Jamal could've been a Spitfire



Jamal Lowe

JAMAL Lowe, two-goal hero of Portsmouth's promotion-clinching victory at Notts County on Monday, was 'one that got away' from Eastleigh.

Lowe, 22, went on as sub and bagged two late goals at Meadow Lane as Paul Cook's Pompey booked their ticket to League One with three matches to spare.

But had Eastleigh had their way, Fratton Park's new cult hero would have been a Spitfire.

Back in October last year when Ronnie Moore was still at the Eastleigh helm, the National

League outfit had a bid accepted by Lowe's previous club Hampton & Richmond Borough.

But it is understood negotiations broke down with the player because Lowe – one of non-League's hottest properties – had his eyes on League football.

He got his wish, signing a pre-contract deal with Portsmouth in late October before linking up with them officially when the transfer window opened in January.

With the score 1-1 at Notts County, Lowe put hope in Pompey

hearts when he received Kal Nai-smith's 77th-minute pass and exquisitely curled the ball into the bottom corner.

Come the 90th minute he sent the travelling Fratton faithful into dreamland, calmly chipping 'keeper Adam Collin one-on-one after racing onto Michael Doyle's swiftly-taken free-kick.

The 3-1 win sealed Lowe's second promotion in as many seasons after helping to fire Hampton & Richmond up from the Ryman Premier to the National League South.

Magpies won't be punished further

Wendy Gee



WIMBORNE Town will face no further action from the Southern League after being fined by the Football Association for a rule breach involving AFC Bourne-mouth goalkeeper Pat O'Flaherty. The 19-year-old, a member of the under-21 squad at Vitality Stadium, spent the first half of the season on loan at Cuthbury.

But it emerged he made 12 appearances for the Southern League outfit between August and September before his temporary transfer had been authorised by the FA.

Wimborne were subsequently charged with a failure to comply with an FA rule and fined £150 after admitting the breach.

However, they will face no further sanctions with a statement from the league reading: "The matter has been discussed by the league's board and no further action is being taken against the club following written observations from them."

O'Flaherty is currently out on loan again with the Magpies' Southern One South & West rivals AFC Totton and was outstanding in Easter Monday's 1-0 win at Winchester City.

Wimborne have had a poor week of it results-wise.

After losing their penultimate home game 3-0 to Yate Town last Saturday, they suffered a late cave-in at the Raymond McEnhill Stadium on Easter Monday as promotion-seeking Salisbury struck four times in the last ten minutes to win 5-2.



Goalkeeper Pat O'Flaherty in action for AFC Totton.

With several players unavailable, the Magpies' bench included Danny Holmes and fellow assistant manager Shane Traynor who admitted afterwards: "Unfortunately there were a few tired legs kicked in at the end and we didn't have enough personnel on the bench to help the situation. It was always going to be difficult and so it proved."

Toby Holmes drew first blood

for the Magpies on 33 minutes before Tommy Wright levelled midway through the second half.

Wimborne again silenced the majority of the 914-strong crowd when they regained the lead through Louis Kellaway, but their dearth of options was exposed as Salisbury overpowered them through Lewis Benson (2), Kane O'Keefe and a penalty from leading marksman Wright.

"Some of their supporters were getting on their backs because they couldn't break us down," said Traynor.

"We had a good game plan which our players stuck to until about the 80-minute mark. They scored a rather fortuitous second goal to make it 2-2 and that got their tails up. From there, they had momentum which took them forward to win the game."

PINK NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Alfy: 'My dad has never pushed me'

Wendy
Gee



ALFY Whittingham has ambitions to follow his father's footsteps into the professional game.

But AFC Totton's dual-signed Havant & Waterlooville midfielder/forward says there has been no pressure from dad, Guy, to get involved in football.

Known as 'Corporal Punishment' during his free-scoring Portsmouth days, Guy famously bought himself out of the British Army and, via Waterlooville and Yeovil Town, went on to carve out a successful career with Pompey (twice) – whom he later managed – Aston Villa and Sheffield Wednesday.

Now 18, Whittingham Jnr never got to watch his dad play but has caught up with most of his vast repertoire of goals on YouTube.

With his parents watching on from the stand, young Whittingham assisted in three of Totton's goals in their 4-0 win over Bishop's Cleeve last weekend in the Southern One South & West.

Asked if he felt any pressure having such a famous 'old man', he said: "My dad's never pushed me into anything.

"He's encouraged me to compete in all different sports like rugby and tennis, but it just turns out that I've progressed better in football than the others.

"I want to make it as a pro like he did."

Based in Whiteley, young Whittingham attended Swanmore College of Technology before moving on to South Downs College which is linked to the Havant & Waterlooville FC academy.

He was at AFC Portchester last term prior to signing for Havant and, after a short spells with Winchester City and Petersfield Town this season, he linked up with Totton on a dual-signing in December.

Despite his tender age, the



Totton's Alfie Whittingham in action

teenager is no shrinking violet – hence he was taken off after 63 minutes last Saturday having just been booked.

But it's all part of the learning process for the youngster who says his spell with the Louis Langdown's Stags has given him a valuable insight into the physical demands of senior football.

"I wasn't playing at Havant and I needed to play men's football to

learn," he said.

"Louis has been playing me every week and I'm learning all about men's football and how physical it can be.

"I'm starting to progress and get involved in goals now and I'm enjoying my football at Totton.

"I think Lee Bradbury (Havant & Waterlooville manager) speaks to Louis on a weekly basis and my aim is to keep pushing at Havant."

Totton boss Langdown believes young Whittingham has just the right attitude to progress.

"Alfy's got so much enthusiasm and energy, it's infectious," he said. "And he's got ability too.

"He could have scored more goals than he has, but the beauty of Alfie is he cares and he realises when he's done something wrong. "He's a young man who wants to get better."

Will the Swans gain Wessex status?

SWANAGE Town & Herston are unlikely to be given the green light to join the Sydenhams Wessex League should they achieve a top-three finish in the Dorset Premier League.

Swans submitted an application to be considered for promotion after reaching an agreement with Swanage Town Council for a 100-year lease on their Day's Park headquarters earlier this campaign.

It was always subject to the team finishing in the top three in the DPL and their home venue passing the Football Association ground grading for Step Six (Sydenhams Wessex



Graeme Rose

One).

However, following two recent inspections on the venue, the club failed to meet the relevant criteria and look certain to have their application turned down, although the FA will have the final say.

Swans have a fight on their hands to secure a top-three berth but kept hopes alive with a battling 2-1 win at Merley Cobham Sports last weekend.

Trailing to Matt Groves's first-half opener, Swans staged a spirited second-half comeback.

They scored twice in the final 15 minutes, with David Best and Graeme Rose on target.

The win extended to seven games their unbeaten league run and left them fourth in the division, seven points behind third-placed Hamworthy Recreation with three games in hand.

Totton tyros showing they're bright sparks

IT says a lot about the youthful make-up of AFC Totton's team that 18-year-old Alfie Whittingham made way for an even younger player in last Saturday's 4-0 home win over Bishop's Cleeve.

Alex Haynes, 17, who came

on for the last 30 minutes, having just returned from England Schools duty against the Republic of Ireland at Home Farm FC, Dublin.

England's under-18s emerged 5-2 winners with Haynes, a Bar-

ton Peveril Sixth Form College student from Lordswood, Southampton, making his Three Lions debut as a late substitute.

Haynes is in his second year with AFC Totton having previously been part of the Queen's

Keep Southampton youth set-up.

Sholing's Jean-Luc Ramdin, who attends Itchen College, played the full 90 minutes for England's youngsters in Dublin, Ireland in the Inspiresport Centenary Shield.

PINK

NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Hawks set record crowd

HAVANT & Waterlooville and Bognor Regis Town set a new league record attendance for the 2016/17 season when the Ryman Premier title rivals met on Easter Monday.

A whopping 3,455 fans flocked to Westleigh Park to see the Hawks emerge 1-0 winners and leapfrog above the Rocks into top spot with just one game to go.

It smashed the 2,805 record attendance Dulwich Hamlet set when they hosted Billericay Town at Champion Hill on Saturday, March 25.

Initially Monday's crowd was announced as 2,307.

But the record-breaking gate - the Hawks' biggest ever for a league game - was eventually confirmed on Tuesday morning following a final tally-up by



Lee Bradbury

the club.

It capped a perfect Easter for Lee Bradbury's men who beat Canvey Island 2-1 on Good Friday, courtesy of two-goal midfielder Theo Lewis, before edging past Bognor with a Wes Fogden strike.

The winner arrived on 55 minutes when, from a cross by former Follands and Gosport wideman Rory Williams, Fogden twisted and turned amid a goal-mouth scramble before firing into the top corner.

"It was a fantastic performance, full of energy, to topple the league leaders," smiled Bradbury.

Going into today's final round of matches, Havant were two points clear of their south coast neighbours in their bid for an immediate return to the National League South.

Bognor were due to host Met Police today while Havant & Waterlooville were travelling to Kingstorian.

Spitfires gunning for Hampshire Cup glory



Eastleigh Ladies

EASTLEIGH Ladies have only been together since the beginning of the season, but they have already made quite an impact.

They finished second in the Hampshire County Women's League Division One and reached the semi-final of the Hampshire FA Women's Challenge Cup before bowing out to Southampton Ladies.

Tomorrow (Sunday, April 23) the side, managed by Brian Hill and his assistant Lewis Robinson, hope to make it third time lucky in their push for silverware.

They will make the short trip to Winchester City's Denplan City Ground to face AFC Bournemouth Ladies in the final of the Hampshire Women's Invitation Cup. Kick-off is 2.30pm and all

support is welcome. Entry is £3 adults and £1 under-16s.

Eastleigh Ladies: Back row (left to right): Chelsea Owten, Lauren Hill, Kirsten Williams, Leah Shave, Nicky Beeton, Hollie Agombar, Amy Wakefield, Kim Whitcombe, Emma Hoggett.

Front row: Carys Thornton, Paige Seeley, Lauren Medhurst, Sam Hide, Tash Konczak

Spitfires plotting more hard graft

Wendy Gee



EASTLEIGH have spent a fortune on players, but experienced targetman Craig McAllister reckons you can't overestimate the value of sheer hard work.

One way and another it's been a deeply depressing season on the pitch for Spitfires.

Rewind to Good Friday 2014 and an historic home victory over Basingstoke Town guaranteed them promotion to non-League's top flight as champions of the Conference South.

Sheer relief

Fast forward three years and that sense of euphoria was replaced by sheer relief on Easter Monday as Eastleigh banished any lingering fears of relegation with a 2-1 win over Bromley at the Silverlake.

When Richard Hill, architect of that 2014 triumph, came back to help the club in a time of crisis towards the end of February, there was no guarantee he could reverse the damage done in Martin Allen's costly 84-day reign.

A sequence of three wins and a draw in March set the Spitfires on the road to recovery, but they dived with death again with successive defeats to Dagenham, Lincoln and North Ferriby before finally being able to breathe easily again.

Speaking after goals by Scott Wilson and Sam Matthews had mathematically guaranteed survival, McAllister said: "We knew we had to win today. We didn't want to be looking over our shoulders."

"We got there through hard work and that's come through in the last six to eight weeks going back to when the gaffer came in.



Craig McAllister (left) with Eastleigh scorer Scott Wilson

"The workrate has been high day in, day out - and it has to be the same next season," he stressed.

"The gaffer demands it and the players demand it of each other. We've got lads in that dressing room who've won promotions and leagues and the desire can never

be questioned.

"We need to see the season out the right way now. We owe it to ourselves to finish as high as we can."

"For me personally, it's the first time in four or five years that I haven't been challenging for something.

"But next season we will get a side that's in there and amongst it."

Eastleigh were due to play their penultimate game at Solihull Moors today.

Their last fixture is at home to Wrexham next Saturday (April 29, 12.15pm).

PINK NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Wilde's worldie was 'ridiculous'

Wendy Gee



SCORING goals has been all about quality not quantity for Adam Wilde this season.

AFC Totton's player/assistant manager doesn't net that often these days but, when he does, they are a thing of beauty.

The vote for The Stags Voice 'goal-of-the-season' had already closed when the former Cambridge City and Gosport Borough wideman stunned Winchester City with an outrageous 50-yard strike at the Denplan City Ground on Easter Monday.

But still the 37-year-old Southampton-based barber managed to top the fans' poll, having proved himself a cut above the rest with his Matt Le Tissier-esque moment of magic in February's 3-1 home defeat by Tiverton Town.

The result wasn't what the Stags wanted that day, but Wilde's inspired finish provided quality consolation.

Found by Curtis Young just outside the area, he flicked the ball up and, in one majestic movement, looped a sumptuous left-foot strike out of reach of goal-keeper Joe Perry.

It secured him 42 per cent of the 'goal-of-the-season' vote, beating Nick Watts (v Hereford) with 28 per cent and on-loan AFC Bournemouth youngster Young, who took two 15 per cent shares for his efforts against Bridgwater and Bideford.

Had the poll run a day or two longer, Wilde would still have won it, but possibly with a different goal.

Audacious

In manager Louis Langdown's eyes, his audacious half-volley at Winchester had the edge.

Langdown tweeted on Tuesday: "Yesterday's wins it for me! #strike #ridiculous #50 yards #half volley. Can't score from 5 yards so let's do it from 50!"

Wilde's winner took just under a quarter-of-an-hour arriving.

"The keeper came out and booted it to Adam, who was three yards in his own half right by the touchline," said Langdown.

"He looked up and drilled it like an arrow straight in, no bounce, nothing.

"If I'm honest, it was our only shot of the game. But we've



Adam Wilde

turned up with a bare 11 - no Matt Bozier, Nathaniel Sherborne or Alex Haynes - and put up an excellent rearguard action.

"People talk about having a young side - and ours is incredibly young.

"They talk about budget restrictions - and half our lads play for nothing.

"The likes of (defenders) Dave Allen and Sam Roberts, I can't

praise enough.

"Sam gets nothing. In fact when he gets booked, he has to pay the club!

"Winchester can say they had most of the chances, but we scored a wonder goal and defended manfully to keep a clean sheet.

"Pat O'Flaherty's made some great saves and it was a real backs to the wall job full of spirit and togetherness. In my eyes, we de-

served the win."

Winchester boss Craig Davis was bitterly disappointed but not overly surprised at the quality of Wilde's goal.

"I've played with him at Gosport Borough and we know Adam's got that in his locker," he said.

"That was the only shot they had, but credit to him and credit to Totton. Their keeper's had the game of his life."

Harlequins hire new manager

BEMERTON Heath Harlequins have appointed Rae Hughes as their new manager.

The former Downton coach is excited by the challenge and will focus on building a squad capable of competing at the top end of the Sydenhams Premier Division.

Hughes takes the place of Graham Kemp who is stepping down at the end of the season after just over two years at the club.

Hughes, former physio at National League South side Gosport Borough, has led Downton to a mid-table finish in Sydenhams One after succeeding Colin Hopkins at the Robins' helm.

The 35-year-old said: "I have had a great season at



Rae Hughes

Downton and would like to thank them and wish them all the very best of luck.

"Bemerton is a top club with first-class facilities."

Harlequins chairman Steve Slade revealed there had been about a dozen applicants for the job and it was a close-run thing between two candidates.

"Rae deservedly got the position," he said. "He's an up-and-coming young manager and we are looking forward to him coming in and playing some good, exciting football."

Ben Smith, Hughes' player/assistant manager at Downton, believes Bemerton have done well appointing the former Salisbury City secretary.

He said: "Rae is a great coach and Bemerton have done well to secure his services. I've no doubt he will succeed in his new appointment."

● *Continued from main spread.*

Premier League after back-to-back promotions and faced Chelsea in the league for the first time in nearly 8 years.

The sides had met in the FA Cup just 11 days earlier, when The Blues romped to a 5-1 victory at St. Mary's, and it looked as though this fixture might play out in a similar manner.

Demba Ba opened the scoring with an instinctive overhead kick that deflected past Artur Boruc, and Eden Hazard doubled Chelsea's lead just before the break with an unstoppable strike from the edge of the area after Ramires had hit the crossbar.

Rickie Lambert came off the bench shortly into the second half, and pulled one back for The Saints just three minutes later, showing great strength to head the ball into the top corner without even having to jump.

Jason Puncheon completed the comeback 15 minutes from time, latching on to a Luke Shaw cross and teeing himself up for a volley that looped gracefully out of reach of Petr Cech and into the net.

The Saints finished in an impressive 14th on their return to top-flight football, and Rafa Benitez's Chelsea won the Europa League in his only season with the club.

1st December 2013
Chelsea 3 – 1 Southampton (Premier League)

Stamford Bridge was stunned just 13 seconds into the game when Michael Essien's lofted backpass allowed Jay Rodriguez to pounce and punish Mourinho's men.

Mauricio Pochettino's Southampton were unable to create another shot on target in the game though, and Chelsea looked much brighter in the second half.

Centre-back pairing John Terry and Gary Cahill both scored impressive headers, before Demba Ba's improvised finish rounded things off in the 90th minute.

This was both sides' 13th game of the season, and The Saints were boasting the best defensive record in the league, having conceded just seven goals before this fixture.

The back four was made up of Nathaniel Clyne, Dejan Lovren, Jose Fonte and Luke Shaw. With Morgan Schneiderlin and Victor Wanyama sitting in front, it was a rock solid defensive line.

3rd October 2015
Chelsea 1 – 3 Southampton (Premier League)

Graziano Pelle and Sadio Mane ran the show

● *Saints v Chelsea special continues on the facing page of this spread.*

PINK

SAINTS NOSTALGIA

Iconic games

Ashley
Gregory

SAINTS travel to Stamford Bridge hoping to put a great big dent in Chelsea's Premier League title ambitions.

Fixtures between the sides have provided some classics and, here, the *Sports Pink*, takes a look back at some of the memorable meetings between the two clubs.

10th September 1962
Chelsea 2 – 0 Southampton (Old Second Division)

The first post-war meeting between the two sides ended in a comfortable victory for Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

The Blues had just been relegated from the First Division after finishing 22nd, and went on to bounce straight back up by placing second in the 1962/63 season.

English forward Bobby Tambling fired Chelsea into an early lead with just two minutes on the clock, before Welshman Graham Moore made it 2-0. A Saints comeback was a bridge too far at The Bridge on this occasion.

2nd September 1967
Chelsea 2 – 6 Southampton (Old First Division)

Following Chelsea's promotion, Southampton achieved the same feat a few seasons later.

Having survived the previous campaign in 19th, Ted Bates' Saints were keen to make progress, and an emphatic victory at Chelsea proved they might be capable.

Ron Davies had scored 43 goals in his maiden season at The Dell, but his four goals in this triumph were perhaps the most impressive, having completed his hat-trick after just 27 minutes.

Martin Chivers bagged the other two for Saints, including a spectacular bicycle kick, and Peter Osgood's brace was merely a consolation for the underperforming hosts.

Chelsea manager Tommy Docherty claimed to have "never seen a better goal" than Osgood's first, as he tricked his way past five men in a fantastic solo effort.

6th January 1968
Southampton 3 – 5 Chelsea (Old First Division)

It was two eight-goal thrillers between the two sides this season, but this time Chelsea would prevail.

No particular player would be the star of the show this time though, with Chelsea goals coming from Charlie Cooke, Tommy Baldwin, Bobby Tambling, John Boyle and Peter Osgood.



Saints attacker Jason Puncheon strikes to make it 2-2 at Stamford Bridge in January 2013

Mick Channon had fired Southampton into an early lead, and Ron Davies scored the other two goals that were in vain.

1st February 1969
Southampton 5 – 0 Chelsea (Old First Division)

This 5-0 pumping is Saints' biggest ever win over Chelsea.

A weakened Blues side featuring a few debutants was put to the sword by Ted Bates' rampant Southampton side at The Dell.

Mick Channon scored early once more; he and Jimmy Gabriel both netted headers before Dave Webb scored an own goal for his old club and Ron Davies bagged a brace as he had done the last time the sides met.

24th November 1973
Chelsea 4 – 0 Southampton (Old First Division)

Southampton were growing used to life in the top flight, but playing in the UEFA Cup in the previous season seems to have been a step too far as they fell to a disappointing 19th place finish.

Chelsea were in front early on thanks to Saints defender Paul

Bennett's own goal.

Southampton stayed in the game, but were left to rue missed opportunities when Chris Garland doubled The Blues' advantage on the hour mark before two quick goals from Steve Kember sealed a convincing victory for the hosts.

14th April 1979
Chelsea 1 – 2 Southampton (Old First Division)

Lawrie McMenemy's Southampton had finished runners-up of the Second Division the previous campaign, and celebrated their return to the First Division by finishing comfortably in 14th.

Chelsea however were in real disarray both on and off the pitch. The seemingly unnecessary redevelopment of Stamford Bridge had cost far more than expected, and the rebuilt East Stand was around 20 metres out of place when compared to the pitch. Hooliganism also damaged the club's reputation, and they suffered relegation at the end of the season having finished 22nd.

The Saints cruised into a 2-0 lead before half-time thanks to a

David Peach penalty and a strike from Nick Holmes that comically flew in off the head of Chelsea goalkeeper Petar Borata.

Substitute Gary Stanley pulled one back for The Blues, but McMenemy's boys had the class to hold on.

6th October 1990
Southampton 3 – 3 Chelsea (Old First Division)

Bobby Campbell's Chelsea were on the up, having finished 5th the previous season immediately after being promoted.

This season in the First Division would see two teams relegated and four promoted in order to change the league format to 22 teams for future seasons.

Despite off-the-pitch changes, the typically exciting meeting of Southampton and Chelsea never looked in doubt.

Alan Shearer latched on to Andy Cook's through ball, and fired The Saints into the lead after 13 minutes.

It was Chelsea who led by half time though, thanks to a low drive from Steve Clarke and Kevin Wilson's close range effort both beat-

PINK SAINTS NOSTALGIA

from the past



Graziano Pelle celebrates his goal in the 3-1 win at Stamford Bridge last term

ing Saints stopper Tim Flowers.

And the game refused to stop thrilling. It only took until the 62nd minute for Chelsea to find themselves behind again, thanks to well-taken volleys from Neil Ruddock and Rod Wallace.

Chelsea forward Gordon Drurie was then brought down in the box by Russell Osman, and Dennis Wise stepped up to calmly slot the resulting penalty in off the post and cap off a sensational draw.

30th August 1997
Chelsea 4 – 2 Southampton (Premiership)

Chelsea's Dan Petrescu got the ball rolling in this whirlwind of a tie with a sensational long-range chip that pinged in off the post.

Chelsea goalkeeper Ed de Goey was then left red faced when he failed to clear his lines and was tackled by Kevin Davies, gifting Southampton an equaliser.

de Goey was spared his blushes though, as a barrage of Chelsea attacks saw the FA Cup holders score three goals in just six minutes.

Headers from Frank Lebouef and Mark Hughes were followed

by a calm finish from Dennis Wise after the ball fell at his feet on the 6-yard line.

Ken Monkou pulled one back for The Saints, but they couldn't muster another despite Chelsea midfielder Frank Sinclair being shown a red card.

4th November 2000
Southampton 3 – 2 Chelsea (Premiership)

James Beattie stunned Chelsea with a stoppage time winner in The Blues' last visit to The Dell.

The Englishman opened the scoring after just three minutes when he latched on to Wayne Bridge's cross, and Jo Tessem doubled The Saints' lead with a close-range finish after a scramble in the penalty area.

Chelsea ended up looking the most likely winners though after Gustavo Poyet teed up Dennis Wise before scoring a well placed header.

But any hint of a Chelsea comeback was put to rest in stoppage time, when Beattie's 28-yard free-kick was too powerful for de Goey to stop despite getting his fingertips to it.

1st January 2002
Chelsea 2 – 4 Southampton (Premiership)

New Year's Day 2002 saw Gordon Strachan's first visit to Stamford Bridge as Southampton manager, and it was one to remember as The Saints came from behind to win an away game for the first time since 1994.

A thunderbolt of a free-kick from James Beattie from 30 yards sailed past Chelsea stopper Carlo Cudicini and into the top corner, giving The Saints the lead after just seven minutes.

The Londoners fought back strongly though, with Jimmy-Floyd Hasselbaink setting up Eidur Gudjohnsen before finding the net himself on the stroke of half time.

The Blues looked to be in cruise control early in the second half, but a long ball over the top allowed Marian Pahars to get in behind and put Southampton back on level terms at 2-2.

Chris Marsden then found himself unchallenged in the air, and headed home from a corner before Beattie bagged his second

with a smart first-touch finish.

Claudio Ranieri's Chelsea were in danger of losing touch with the leading pack, and they ended the season in 6th, while Southampton registered a healthy 11th placed finish.

1st May 2004
Chelsea 4 – 0 Southampton (Premiership)

17-year-old full-back Martin Cranie made his debut for Southampton in a difficult fixture at Stamford Bridge.

The Saints were holding out well against a Chelsea side that had undergone huge investment thanks to new owner Roman Abramovic, but Cranie headed the ball into his own net in the 59th minute from a Chelsea corner.

Frank Lampard then scored twice by being in the right place at the right time with those famous late runs into the box.

Glen Johnson made it four just two minutes later, firing home from the edge of the box as Chelsea pounced with a counter attack.

Ranieri's Blues finished the 2003/04 season in second, behind only the 'invincible' Arsenal side. The Italian was replaced in the summer by Jose Mourinho.

2nd April 2005
Southampton 1 – 3 Chelsea (Premiership)

The sides ended the 2004/05 season at opposite ends of the table. Harry Redknapp's Southampton finished in 20th place with only six wins, just two points from safety.

A convincing win at St. Mary's left Chelsea within touching distance of winning the top-flight title for the first time in 50 years. They went on to do so; in what was Mourinho's first campaign in charge of the club.

Frank Lampard's 30-yard free-kick took a wicked deflection off Rory Delap, and left Saints 'keeper Antti Niemi helpless.

Glen Johnson then went on a remarkable run, jinking through the Southampton defence before squaring to Eidur Gudjohnsen who doubled the lead before the break.

Substitute Kevin Phillips then pulled one back for The Saints with a tidy finish from a driven cross, but the hope was short lived as some tidy one-touch passing from Chelsea allowed Gudjohnsen to grab his second and round the game off.

16th January 2013
Chelsea 2 – 2 Southampton (Premier League)

Nigel Adkins' Southampton returned to the

● *Continues in left column.*

● *Continued from facing page.*

as Southampton romped to a stunning victory over a struggling Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

The Champions scored early through a spectacular Willian free-kick, but Steven Davis equalised just before the break with a well taken half-volley from Pelle's chested pass.

Pelle then played through Mane, who was far too quick for John Terry and slotted the ball under Chelsea goalkeeper Asmir Begovic.

Cesar Azpilicueta's miscued pass then allowed Saints to counter-attack. Mane fed Pelle, whose angled shot across goal nestled neatly in the corner of the net to cap off an emphatic victory.

This was Chelsea's fourth defeat of the season in just eight games. The Blues were left 16th in the table, and the reigning champions continued to struggle under Jose Mourinho until his departure.

27th February 2016
Southampton 1 – 2 Chelsea (Premier League)

Chelsea came from behind to triumph over The Saints at St. Mary's.

Shane Long opened the scoring late in the first half when he pounced on a mistake by Chelsea defender Baba Rahman and coolly chipped goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois.

Cesc Fabregas' cross-shot was misjudged by Saints 'keeper Fraser Forster and the ball crept in at the back post before Branislav Ivanovic headed in an 89th minute winner, meaning Guus Hiddink's Chelsea made it 11 games unbeaten since Mourinho's departure.

Forster set a top-flight league record in the 34th minute, by having gone a total 667 minutes without conceding a goal, though he was only able to extend the record to 708 minutes.

30th October 2016
Southampton 0 – 2 Chelsea (Premier League)

In the most recent meeting between the sides, Antonio Conte's Chelsea won 2-0 at St. Mary's thanks to goals from Eden Hazard and Diego Costa.

Hazard cut inside and his powerful driven shot went through the legs of Fraser Forster, before Costa's exquisite curled effort from outside the box sealed victory for a Chelsea side that are well on their way to clinching the title in Conte's maiden season in English football.

The Saints enjoyed more possession, but were only able to muster one shot on target through Dusan Tadic, which was comfortably saved by Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois.

PINK

PREMIER LEAGUE

Ups and downs

JOHN Terry will leave Chelsea at the end of the season after more than two decades at the club.

Here, we look back at some of the highs and lows of the 36-year-old's eventful career so far:

HIGH - Makes Chelsea debut against Aston Villa in October 1998.

LOW - Is one of four players fined two weeks' wages by Chelsea after their behaviour at a Heathrow hotel is criticised on the day after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

LOW - In 2002, Terry and Chelsea team-mate Jody Morris are cleared after being charged with assault and affray in connection with a nightclub incident. Terry, uncapped at the time, is ruled out of the World Cup by the Football Association until the legal



Wayne Bridge

case is completed.

HIGH - Makes England debut as substitute against Serbia & Montenegro in June 2003.

HIGH - Appointed Chelsea captain as the successor to Marcel Desailly in August 2004.

HIGH - Succeeds David Beckham as England captain in August 2006.

LOW - Misses crucial kick in a penalty shoot-out to decide the 2008 Champions League final against Manchester United.

LOW - In December 2009, Chelsea are forced to defend Terry after allegations he took secret cash payments to lay on a behind-the-scenes tour of the club's training ground.

LOW - In January 2010, Terry is named as the sportsman behind a gagging injunction involving his private life. A court order had previously been in place, covering an alleged relationship between married Terry and French model Vanessa Perroncel, a former partner of team-mate Wayne Bridge.

Continued on facing page

Where's the next stop for Blues legend JT?

AFTER 713 matches as a player and a record 578 as captain, John Terry has announced he is leaving Chelsea, the club he joined as a 14-year-old. Where might the 36-year-old might go next?

CHINA

The current favoured location for ageing stars looking for a new adventure and a colossal pay day. As long-time skipper of the Blues, Terry already has a strong following in Asia and even embarked on his own 'Captain China Tour' in 2015.

Two of Terry's ex-managers are currently in charge of Chinese clubs, with Luiz Felipe Scolari at Guangzhou Evergrande and Sven-Goran Eriksson in the second tier with Shen-

zhen FC.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Terry's former Blues team-mate Dan Petrescu is managing in the UAE with Al Nasr and the Romanian has suggested recently he would be keen to make his friend an offer. There is enough money in the league to make it a viable option, and a personal relationship with the boss cannot hurt.

THE UNITED STATES

Terry revealed in an interview at the end of 2015 he could see "maybe there is a time" when he would look to go to play in America, making Major League Soccer a possible destination.

ELSEWHERE IN ENGLAND

Whether or not Terry will consider a move to another English club at this stage of his career is an open question.

Bournemouth have been touted as the likeliest option, with Eddie Howe on the lookout for defensive reinforcements and Jack Wilshere's loan move showing their ambition to move for big name players. West Ham appear the likeliest London club to throw their hat in the ring

PORTUGAL

An Instagram post from February appeared to confirm Terry was learning Portuguese. Would one of the country's bigger names - Benfica, Porto or Sporting Lisbon - be tempted?

Terry's heartache over Chelsea exit

JOHN Terry says the decision to leave Chelsea was the "toughest of my life", but revealed he wants to play regular football again.

Terry and the Blues this week announced the 36-year-old will bring the curtain down on his illustrious Stamford Bridge career at the end of the season.

The club captain has won 14 major honours and made 713 appearances since his first-team debut in 1998.

But Terry has been a bit-part player for the Blues this season, featuring in just five Premier League games for Antonio Conte's table toppers.

Writing on Instagram, the former England skipper said: "It's with overwhelming emotion that earlier this week the club and I announced this will be my last season as a Chelsea player.

"This has been the toughest decision of my life for me and my family, but I always envisaged leaving on the right terms, in the right way and at the right time - and that is now.

"I feel I still have regular football in me but understand that opportunities here at Chelsea will be limited. It is therefore time for a new challenge."

Terry made no mention of his next destination, with China or the United States possible options as well as potentially staying in England with the likes of Bournemouth, who were linked with the defender in January.

However Terry, who has made enough appearances to receive another Premier League winners' medal this term should Chelsea land the title, did reiterate his desire to return to the Bridge in another role somewhere along the line.



Chelsea's John Terry still hopes to face Saints at Stamford Bridge on Tuesday night

"I look forward to returning to this great club in some capacity in the future," he added.

"I want to stress that the jour-

ney is not yet over.

"There is a long way to go and we are committed to ending this campaign on a high.

"I am fully focused on helping the team and manager in every way I can until the end of the season."

PINK

PREMIER LEAGUE

Lampard hails the best PL defender

FRANK Lampard paid tribute to the "greatest defender in Premier League history" following news that John Terry will leave Chelsea at the end of the season.

The 36-year-old will end a 22-year association with the Blues when his contract expires, having won 14 major honours at Stamford Bridge since making his first-team debut in 1998.

Most of that silverware was won alongside his "great friend" Lampard, who did not understate Terry's contribution to the club.

The former England midfielder said on his Instagram page: "The last man standing of an incredible era for @chelseafc.

"What a pleasure to play with the greatest defender in the @premierleague history. In fact, I'd put him up with any defender in world football of any era. He led the club both on and off the pitch from the moment he made his debut.

"He set standards for everyone, whether it was demanding excellence in training, fighting for every win or respecting how fortunate we were to play for such a great club.

"He was, and is, a legend, not just for his talent but just as much for his desire to get the best out of himself and others around him. That's what made him the most successful captain in the club's history.

"Off the pitch a great friend to not just me but so many at the club and outside of it. The countless things I've seen JT do to help people outside of the game, things that not many see, are what defines him as a man.

"@johnterry26 you deserve every accolade you get over the next weeks and beyond and I hope you get what you deserve and lift two massive trophies at the end of the season (just to add to the tally).

"Whatever you do next I know everyone will respect your decision and I know that the Chels will always be your club. Absolute respect."

News of Terry's imminent exit from Stamford Bridge came at a curious time, 24 hours after Chelsea were beaten 2-0 at Manchester United, a result which opens up the Premier League title race, ahead of the visit of Saints to Stamford Bridge on Tuesday night.

Terry's former England teammate Gary Neville questioned the timing of the announcement and believes the 36-year-old still has a part to play this season.

"The news of Terry leaving is



Frank Lampard celebrates a goal for Manchester City against Saints

incredibly strange timing, I don't get it at all," Neville said.

"I'm not really sure who it suits, maybe John Terry a little bit, but I'm not even sure about that.

"It may be a distraction for the dressing room, the club and the fans will be sad today especially after the big game they lost yes-

terday. Maybe he's signed a pre-agreement with somebody and they couldn't keep it quiet any longer."

Neville added: "They haven't kept a clean sheet for quite a bit now and I think he could be quite useful for them.

"If they needed someone with

experience in this last month to get them over the line, he might be the man they need to call on.

"He's got the experience, the resilience, the robustness and that toughness which would get his team-mates over the line. He may be Chelsea's most important player in the next few weeks."

From facing page

LOW - Is axed as England captain in February following a meeting with Fabio Capello.

LOW - Bridge refuses to shake Terry's hand.

HIGH - Is restored to the role of permanent England captain by Capello in March 2011.

LOW - In October 2011, Terry is accused of making a racist slur against Anton Ferdinand during Chelsea's defeat at QPR. A police investigation is launched which culminates in the Crown Prosecution Service announcing that charges would be brought.

LOW - Terry is stripped of the England captaincy for a second time on February 3. The decision was taken by members of the 14-strong FA board, without consulting Capello. Capello resigns as England manager on February 8.

HIGH - Terry captains Chelsea to a 1-0 victory over Barcelona in the first leg of their Champions League semi-final.

LOW - A week later, Chelsea's hopes in the second leg at the Nou Camp are hit when Terry is shown a straight red card.

HIGH - Is cleared at Westminster Magistrates' Court on July 13 of making a racist insult to Ferdinand, but two weeks later is charged by the FA with using racist language towards the QPR defender. Terry denies the charge.

LOW - Announces his retirement from international football on September 23.

LOW - Banned for four matches and fined £220,000 by an FA independent regulatory commission.

LOW - FA reveals written reasons behind independent commission's ruling.

LOW - Makes just 14 appearances in Chelsea's 2012/13 Premier League campaign - his lowest total in 13 seasons.

HIGH - Resurgent under Jose Mourinho in the Portuguese's second spell at Stamford Bridge, Terry plays every minute of Chelsea's 2014/15 Premier League title triumph, earning himself a new one-year deal.

LOW - Is criticised for Chelsea's dismal start to the title defence.

LOW - Terry announces in January 2016 he will not be offered a new deal with Chelsea (although he ends up signing a new one-year deal come May).

Harry's back in hotseat

Harry Redknapp has been appointed as Birmingham's new manager following the resignation of Gianfranco Zola after Monday's 2-0 home defeat by Burton left the St Andrew's club in danger of relegation from the Sky Bet Championship.

The much-travelled Redknapp, who famously led Saints to Premier League relegation, has managed six other clubs in England, including taking Tottenham into the Champions League and winning the FA Cup with Portsmouth.

Here, we take a look at how Birmingham came to appoint him as their manager and what the future could hold at St Andrew's.

How did it come to this?

When Birmingham unexpectedly sacked Gary Rowett in December they were seventh in the table and only outside the promotion play-off spots on goal difference. Following just two wins and seven draws in 24 games Zola quit on Monday after the defeat to Burton,



Harry Redknapp

a match which ended with Birmingham fans chanting "we want Zola out" and the club just three points above the relegation zone.

How did Birmingham's owners get it so wrong over Zola?

Trillion Trophy Asia Ltd bought the club in October 2016 following the disastrous regime of former owner Carson Yeung who is in prison in China after being convicted of money laundering charges. TTAL announced the appointment of Zola on the same day Rowett was sacked and backed the Italian with money for signings in the January transfer window and also with a public announcement that his job was safe on April 10, only for a subsequent 1-1 draw at already-relegated Rotherham and the defeat to fellow strugglers Burton to then be followed by his resignation.

Continued on facing page

PINK

SAINTS

Three Lions in

By Simon Carter



JAMES Ward-Prowse and Nathan Redmond recently became the latest members of an exclusive club.

Only 28 men have made their senior England international debuts while playing for Saints - and seven of those have come since August 2013.

Here, the Sports Pink looks at Saints' England debutants.

ARTHUR TURNER

The Hartley Wintney man became the first Hampshire born player to appear for England, in 1900, at the end of his first season of Southern League football for Saints.

ARTHUR CHADWICK

The man who went on to become Saints manager won his two caps in 1900 against Scotland and Wales.

CB FRY

One of the greatest sporting all-rounders of all time, Fry represented England at both cricket and football, as well as playing in an FA Cup Final for Saints and equalling the then-world record for the long jump.

His only England football cap came in 1901 when Ireland played at The Dell. Saints teammate Jack Robinson - who had previously played for England while with another club - was in goal.

It is as a cricketer that he is best remembered, scoring over 30,000 first class runs and heading the English championship batting averages in 1901 - the year he played football for England, lest we forget! - 1903, 1905, 1907, 1911 and 1912.

Fry ended up winning 26 England Test caps in cricket, and after his stellar sporting career finished he three times stood as a Liberal candidate in two General Elections (failing to win each time) and an Oxford by-election.

GEORGE MOLYNEUX

His first appearance for England was subsequently scrubbed from the record books.

Playing against Scotland at Rangers' Ibrox in April 1902, the game was abandoned after part of a new stand collapsed, killing 25 fans. Molyneux played in the 2-2 draw at Villa Park when the game was 'replayed' the following month.

BERT LEE

Made his only England appearance in a 2-2 draw against Wales



in Wrexham in 1904.

FRED TITMUSS

Made his debut against Wales when Saints were in the old Third Division South in March 1922. Won just two England caps.

BILL RAWLINGS

Also made his debut for England

in the same game as Titmuss. As a result, it was the first time that two players from the third tier had ever appeared in the same England side.

TOM PARKER

Born in Southampton in 1897, Parker played and managed Saints and was still living in the

city when he passed away in 1987 aged 89. Made his solitary England appearance against France in May 1925.

ALF RAMSEY

The man who later managed England to the World Cup was a Saints player when he made his playing debut for the England

PINK

SAINTS

Saints shirts



Nathan Redmond, main picture, on his senior England debut in Germany last month. Below (top) - Rickie Lambert scores the winner on his England debut against Scotland in August 2013. Below (bottom) - Luke Shaw in World Cup 2014 action against Costa Rica.

land.

MICK CHANNON

Made the first of his 46 England appearances against Yugoslavia at Wembley in 1972, alongside future Saints Peter Shilton, Alan Ball and Mick Mills.

Went on to score 21 goals, the last of which was a penalty in the infamous 2-1 home loss to Scotland in May 1977 where the visiting fans invaded the Wembley pitch and broke the crossbar.

Channon's last international came in a friendly against Switzerland in November 1977, when he was substituted at half-time - and he wasn't even 29 at the time.

The Dell legend remains the highest capped England international of all time to have never played in a World Cup or European Championship finals campaign.

STEVE WILLIAMS

The Dell midfielder won six England caps, the first coming in a June 1983 friendly against Australia. He made his debut in an experimental England XI at the Sydney Cricket Ground alongside fellow debutants Danny Thomas (Coventry), Mark Barham (Norwich), John Gregory (QPR) and Paul Walsh (Luton). The game ended goalless. Williams' last England appearance was in an 8-0 World Cup qualifying win in Turkey in November 1984.

MARK WRIGHT

The centre half, signed by Lawrie McMenemy from third tier Oxford United in 1982, made his England debut two years later in a 1-0 Home International defeat against Wales in Wrexham. He was only 20 at the time.

Wright, sold to Derby in 1987, won 45 senior England caps, scoring one goal - in a 1-0 World Cup finals win against Egypt in Italia 90.

His international career lasted 12 years - his final appearance was in 1996, when he was injured in a pre-Euro 96 friendly against Hungary at Wembley.

DANNY WALLACE

Selected for the England team for the friendly against Egypt in Cairo in February 1986, the Saints winger scored in a 4-0 victory and never played again. Gordon Cowans and Trevor Steven also netted and the Egyptians contributed an own goal.

ALAN SHEARER

Shearer scored on his England debut in a 2-0 win for Graham Taylor's side against France at Wembley in February 1992. *Continued on next page.*

From facing page
Can Redknapp keep
Birmingham up?

Redknapp has an impressive CV having managed Bournemouth, West Ham, Portsmouth, Southampton, Tottenham and QPR and having steered Pompey to an FA Cup win in 2008. First on his agenda is the little matter of a derby game at fierce local rivals Aston Villa on Sunday lunchtime. Then comes a home game on April 29 against a Huddersfield side who might still be in contention for automatic promotion at that stage. Finally Redknapp's new side go to Bristol City who could also still be fighting relegation on the final day of the season. It is hard to see where Birmingham will pick up even a single point.

What will happen next season at St Andrew's?

Redknapp has said he only has a contract for the remaining three games of this season and claims talks about extending his stay will only be held if he keeps them up. The remaining three games will show him which of the current squad have



Gianfranco Zola

the stomach for a fight and, should he stay, he will look to TTAL to fund a summer spending spree to try to reverse the downward spiral the club's playing fortunes took under Zola.

What does the future hold for Birmingham?

The owners certainly backed Zola who signed several players in January and Redknapp, or his successor, will have a rebuilding job on their hands. Birmingham players were involved in a public row after the Rotherham draw and the current squad will need freshening up in the summer. A spell in League One might be the best place to do that but TTAL will have to take a significant hit on the value of its investment in the meantime. Sheffield United have only just secured a return to the Championship after dropping into League One in 2011, showing how hard it is to get back.

senior team in December 1948 against Switzerland at Highbury. He was almost 29 at the time and went on to win 32 caps. His last international appearance was in the infamous 6-3 home loss to Hungary in 1953 - England's first ever loss to a non-British nation at Wembley.

BILL ELLERINGTON

The right back made his England debut in May 1949, three years after making his Saints debut. Ellerington won only one more cap, in the same month.

TERRY PAINE

Paine, who was playing in the second tier at the time, made his debut in 1963 against Czechoslo-

vakia in Bratislava and later that year scored a hat-trick against Northern Ireland at Wembley in only his fifth appearance for his country. In his eighth appearance scored twice more in a 10-0 win over the USA in New York. Made his 19th and final appearance in the 1966 World Cup finals group stage against Mexico at Wembley. Scored seven goals in all for Eng-

Barca need to do it again

BARCELONA completed what was the greatest-ever comeback in the history of the Champions League knockout stages when they overturned a four-goal first-leg deficit against Paris St Germain but now they have to perform another escape act against Juventus.

The Italian champions won the quarter-final first leg 3-0 in Turin with goals from Paulo Dybala (2) and Giorgio Chiellini, leaving Luis Enrique's side facing another uphill task to make it to the semi-finals.

Here, we look at some of the more memorable occasions on which teams have overturned big deficits to go through after a rousing second-leg performance.

Barcelona 6 Paris St Germain 1 (Barcelona win 6-5 on aggregate) - March 2017

After being humbled 4-0 in the first leg in Paris, few gave them a chance of overturning such a big deficit in the second leg at the Nou Camp but in Luis Enrique's final season as



Lionel Messi

head coach that is exactly what Lionel Messi and Co pulled off.

Barcelona surged ahead through Luis Suarez, an own goal from Layvin Kurzawa and a Messi penalty only for Edinson Cavani to hit back for PSG. All looked lost for the Spanish giants but Neymar scored on 88 minutes and with an injury-time penalty before Sergi Roberto struck the final blow five minutes into stoppage time.

Deportivo La Coruna 4 AC Milan 0 (Deportivo win 5-4 on aggregate) - April 2004

No eyebrows were raised when Serie A giants Milan thumped Deportivo 4-1 in the first leg at San Siro, with superstars Kaka, Andriy Shevchenko and Andrea Pirlo living up to their star billing.

But three goals in a remarkable first half at Riazor, sparked by Walter Pandiani's opener, turned the tie around.

Continued on facing page

PINK

SAINTS

From Flowers



England's (from left to right) John Stones, Raheem Sterling and James Ward-Prowse during training.

from page 19

Shearer was sold to Blackburn for £3.3m later that year and scored 30 goals in 63 appearances for his country before retiring from international after Euro 2000.

Shearer entered Euro 96 having only scored five goals in 23 England appearances, but struck five times in as many matches as Terry Venables' side reached the semi-finals.

TIM FLOWERS

The goalkeeper made the first of his 11 England appearances in a 1-1 friendly draw with Brazil in June 1993 – several months before he was sold to Blackburn for £2.4m.

MATT LE TISSIER

Many Saints fans still consider it a near criminal offence that Le Tiss only won eight senior England caps, the first of which came in March 1994 in a 1-0 win against Denmark at Wembley.

His final appearance came in early 1997 when, aged 28, he was in the side which lost 1-0 at home to Italy in a World Cup qualifier.

WAYNE BRIDGE

The Saints left back was 21 when he made his England debut in a 1-1 draw against the Netherlands in Amsterdam in February 2002. He went on to win 36 caps, his last coming in November 2009.

JAMES BEATTIE

Made his England debut in February 2003 on the same night as Wayne Rooney in a 3-1 home defeat to Australia at Upton Park. Beattie, who eventually won five England caps, won a call up after hitting 16 goals in as many league and cup games from late October through to late January.



James Ward-Prowse and his former Saints colleagues Nathaniel Clyne and Luke Shaw warm up before the International in Germany recently.

PETER CROUCH

Was still a Saints player when Sven Goran-Eriksson handed him his first cap in a May 2005 friendly against Columbia in America. He left to join Liverpool a few weeks later.

The Stoke striker scored an impressive 22 goals in 42 appearances for his country, including a hat-trick against Jamaica at Old

Trafford in June 2006.

His final appearance came in a 2-1 friendly loss to France at Wembley in November 2010.

RICKIE LAMBERT

Was 31 years and 179 days old when he made a remarkable senior England international debut against Scotland at Wembley in August 2014. Coming on as a second half sub, Lambert headed the

winner with his first touch.

Scored again in his second game, against Moldova in a World Cup qualifier, and went on to win 11 caps. His third and last goal came in a 2-2 draw against Ecuador in a pre 2014 World Cup friendly.

ADAM LALLANA

The Saints academy graduate made his senior international de-

PINK SAINTS through to JWP



England's (from left to right)
James Ward-Prowse, Ben Gibson

old when he made his senior debut against Denmark at Wembley in March 2014. At the time he was the 12th youngest person ever to make his senior England debut, though Marcus Rashford has since overtaken him. Has fallen down the left back pecking order following his move to Manchester United after the 2014 World Cup, but recently came on as a late sub against Germany to win his seventh cap.

NATHANIEL CLYNE

The right back was the only Saints player to make his senior England debut during Ronald Koeman's two seasons at St Mary's.

He was initially named in the senior squad for the Euro 2016 qualifiers against San Marino and Estonia in October 2014.

He was an unused sub in both matches, but the following month played the full 90 minutes in a Wembley qualifier against Slovenia. Now at Liverpool, he has won 14 senior caps so far.

NATHAN REDMOND

A regular in the England under-21s under Gareth Southgate, Redmond made his senior debut under the same manager in Germany recently. Has been a regular for Saints since his £11m move from Norwich last summer, and his two goals at Watford earlier this month was no doubt a timely reminder to Southgate.

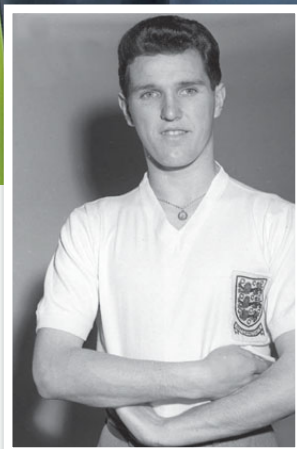
JAMES WARD-Prowse

The fourth Saints academy graduate of the 21st century to win a senior England cap, following Bridge, Lallana and Shaw. Southgate's regular England under-21 skipper, he made his senior bow as a late sub against Germany - becoming the 1,221st player to make his senior England debut since 1878.

the same night as Lallana, and on the same night as current Saints colleague Fraser Forster. Had scored three times in four league games the previous month, and went on to net 17 times for Saints in 2013/14 prior to his horrendous knee injury at Manchester City in early April.

LUKE SHAW

Was only 18 days and 236 days



but in a 2-0 friendly loss to Chile at Wembley in November 2013.

Has gone on to become a regular in the team, and won his 31st cap in the World Cup qualifying win against Lithuania last Sunday. Has scored three goals - all this season against Slovenia, Scotland and Spain.

JAY RODRIGUEZ

Made his international debut on

The greatest Champions League comebacks

From facing page

Monaco 3 Real Madrid 1 (Monaco progress on away goals after 5-5 aggregate score) - April 2004

Real Madrid should have read the small print when they sent Fernando Morientes to Monaco on loan in 2003. Annoyingly, he scored against them in the first leg of this quarter-final tie, but they won 4-2.

A healthy lead established, Los Blancos headed for Monte Carlo full of confidence, only for Morientes to once again stick the knife into his employers, with Ludovic Giuly's brace sealing their fate.

Barcelona 4 AC Milan 0 (Barcelona win 4-2 on aggregate) - March 2013

Milan, by 2013 no longer the all-conquering side of old,



David Moyes

had scored two unanswered goals in the first leg at San Siro.

Never before had a team recovered from 2-0 down without an away goal, but there was no reckoning with the magic of Messi, as his brace preceded goals from David Villa and Jordi Alba.

Manchester United 3 Olympiacos 0 (Manchester United win 3-2 on aggregate) - March 2014

Patience with Sir Alex Ferguson's successor David Moyes was already wearing thin among the Old Trafford faithful, and a 2-0 defeat to Greek side Olympiacos a month earlier did little to aid the Scot.

But Robin van Persie gave Moyes a little longer in the hotseat by scoring a hat-trick in Manchester to steer United into the quarter-finals, a stage at which Bayern Munich proved too strong for them.



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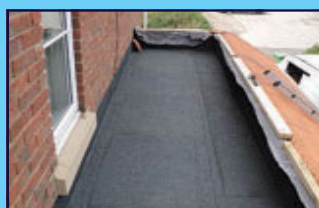


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SAINTS FIXTURES 2016/17



		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
August															
Sat 13 Watford (h)	D 1-1	Forster	Cedric+	Targett	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu	Davis	= W-Prowse	*Long	Tadic	Redmond 1	+Pied	=Hojbjerg	*Austin
Fri 19 Man Utd (a)	L 1-2	Forster	Cedric	Targett	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu*	Hjoiberg	Davis=	Austin	Long+	Redmond	+Rodriguez	=Austin	*Clasie
Sat 27 Sunderland (h)	D1-1	Forster	Cedric	Targett	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Hjoiberg*	Davis	Austin=	Tadic+	Redmond	+Long	=Rodriguez	*W-Prowse
September															
Sat 10 Arsenal (a)	L 1-2	Forster	Cedric	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Clasie*	Tadic1=	Rodriguez+	Redmond	+Long	=W-Prowse	*Hjoiberg
Thurs 15 Sp Prague (Eur Lge) (h)	W 3-0	Forster	Martina	Targett	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu=	W-Prowse	Hjoiberg	Tadic*	Austin 2+	Long	+Rodriguez1	= Davis	*Redmond
Sun 18 Swansea (h)	W 1-0	Forster	Cedric	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Clasie*	Tadic=	Long+	Redmond	+Hjoiberg	=Martina	*Austin1
Wed 21 C Palace (Lge Cup, H)	W 2-0	McCarthy	Martina	Targett	Yoshida	Fonte	W-Prowse	Reed	Clasie	Hesketh1*	Austin1+	Long=	+Redmond	=Tadic	*Hjoiberg
Sun 25 West Ham (a)	W 3-0	Forster	Soares+	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Hojbjerg	Tadic1*	Austin1=	Redmond	+Martina	=Long	*W-Prowse1
Thurs 29 Hapoel (Europa Lge) (a)	D 0-0	Forster	Martina	Targett	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu	W-Prowse	Clasie	Hesketh+	Long	Redmond=	+Tadic	= Hjoiberg	
October															
Sun 2 Leicester (a)	D 0-0	Forster	Soares+	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Hojbjerg	Tadic*	Austin=	Redmond	+ Martina	=W-Prowse	*Long
Sun 16 Burnley (h)	W 3-1	Forster	Martina	Targett+	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Clasie	Tadic	Austin2=	Redmond1*	+McQueen	=Rodriguez	*W-Pr
Thurs 20 Inter (Europa Lge, a)	L 0-1	Forster	Martina	McQueen	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu	W-Pr	Hojbjerg	Tadic*	Long+	Rodriguez=	+Austin	=Davis	*Boufal
Sun 23 Man City (a)	D 1-1	Forster	Martina	McQueen	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Clasie+	Tadic*	Austin=	Redmond1	+Hojbjerg	=W-Prowse	* Boufal
Wed 26 Sunderland (Lge Cup, h)	W 1-0	McCarthy	Stephens	McQueen	Yoshida	Fonte	Reed +	W-Prowse	Boufal1	Isgrove=	Hojbjerg	Rodriguez*	+Clasie	=Redmond	
Sun 30 Chelsea (h)	L 0-2	Forster	Martina	Bertrand+	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Clasie*	Tadic=	Austin	Redmond	+McQueen	=Hojbjerg	*Boufal
November															
Thurs 3 Inter (Europa Lge) (h)	W 2-1	Forster	Martina	McQueen	Van Dijk1	Yoshida	Romeu	W-Prowse	Hojbjerg	Tadic+	Rodriguez=	Redmond	+Davis	=Austin	
Sat 6 Hull (a)	L 1-2	Forster	Yoshida	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Clasie=	Tadic+	Austin1	Redmond*	+Boufal	=Rodriguez	*JWP
Sat 19 Liverpool (h)	D 0-0	Forster	Cedric	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	Davis	Hojbjerg+	Boufal=	Austin*	Redmond	+ Reed	=Long	*Rodriguez
Thur 24 Sp Prague (Eur Lge, a)	L 0-1	Forster	Martina	McQueen	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Clasie+	W-Prowse	Hojbjerg=	Long	Rodriguez*	Redmond	+Austin	=Boufal	*Romeu
Sun 27 Everton (h)	W 1-0	Forster	Cedric	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	W-Prowse	Hojbjerg	Sims+	Austin1=	Redmond*	+McQueen	=Long	*Clasie
Wed 30 Arsenal (League Cup, a)	W 2-0	Forster	Martina	Bertrand1	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Clasie1	Davis	Reed+	Boufal=	Long	McQueen	+Hojbjerg	=Sims	
December															
Sat 3 Crystal Palace (a)	L 0-3	Forster	Cedric	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	W-Prowse	Hojbjerg+	Boufal =	Austin*	Redmond	+Sims	=Long	*McQueen
Thurs 8 Hapoel (Europa Lge, h)	D1-1	Forster	Cedric	Bernard	Van Dijk1	Yoshida	Romeu	Davis	Hojbjerg+	Sims*	Austin=	Redmond	+ W-Prowse	=Long	*Tadic
Sun 11 Middlesbrough (h)	W 1-0	Forster	Martina	McQueen	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	W-Prowse	Clasie+	Boufal1=	Rodriguez	Tadic*	+Long	=Davis	*Redmond
Wed 14 Stoke (a)	D 0-0	Forster	Martina*	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Fonte	Romeu	W-Prowse	Davis	Boufal	Long+	Redmond=	+Rodriguez	=Tadic	*McQueen
Sun 18 Bournemouth (a)	W 3-1	Forster	Soares	Bertrand1	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Reed+	Hojbjerg	Clasie	Boufal*	Rodriguez2=	Redmond	+Davis	= Long	* Tadic
Wed 28 Tottenham (h)	L 1-4	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Van Dijk1	Fonte	Romeu	W-Prowse	Davis+	Boufal=	Rodriguez*	Redmond	+Long	=Hojbjerg	*Tadic
Sat 31 West Brom (h)	L 1-2	Forster	Martina+	McQueen	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu	Hojbjerg=	Davis	Boufal	Long1	Tadic*	+W-Prowse	=Rodriguez	*Sims
January															
Mon 2 Everton (a)	L 0-3	Forster	Soares+	McQueen	Yoshida	Fonte	Romeu	J W-Prowse	Clasie=	Tadic*	Rodriguez	Redmond	+Stephens	=Long	*Boufal
Sat 7 Norwich (FAC, a)	D 2-2	Lewis	Stephens	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Reed+	J W-Prowse	Hojbjerg	Tadic	Long=	Sims*	+Romeu	=Rodriguez	*Redmond
Wed 11 Liverpool (LC, h)	W 1-0	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu	Clasie=	Davis+	Tadic	Rodriguez*	Redmond1	+W-Prowse	=Hojbjerg	*Long
Sat 14 Burnley (a)	L 0-1	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse	Hojbjerg	Tadic+	Long	Redmond=	+Rodriguez	=Sims	
Wed 18 Norwich (FAC, h)	W 1-0	Lewis	Martina	McQueen	Stephens	Yoshida	Reed+	J W-Prowse	Clasie	Sims	Long1	Rodriguez=	+Romeu	=Redmond	
Sat 21 Leicester (h)	W 3-0	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Van Dijk	Yoshida+	Romeu	J W-Prowse1	Hojbjerg=	Tadic1	Rodriguez1*	Redmond	+Stephens	=Clasie	*Long
Wed 25 Liverpool (LC, a)	W 1-0	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse=	Davis	Tadic	Rodriguez+	Redmond*	+Long	=Hojbjerg	*Sims
Sat 28 Arsenal (FAC) (h)	L 0-5	Lewis	Martina	McQueen	Stephens	Gardos	Reed	Clasie	Hojbjerg	Sims	Long =	Isgrove+	+Tadic	=Redmond	
Tues 31 Swansea (a)	L 1-2	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	Clasie	Davis	Tadic+	Long1	Redmond=	+Boufal	=McQueen	
February															
Sat 4 West Ham (h)	L 1-3	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Proswe	Davis	Gabbiadini1	Boufal+	Rodriguez=	+Long	=Redmond	
Sat 11 Sunderland (a)	W 4-0	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse	Davis	Gabbiadini2=	Tadic+	Redmond	+Hojbjerg	=Long1	
Sun 26 Man Utd (LC final)	L 2-3	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse	Davis+	Gabbiadini2=	Tadic*	Redmond	+Rodriguez	=Long	*Boufal
March															
Sat 4 Watford (a)	W 4-3	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse*	Davis	Gabbiadini1+	Tadic=	Redmond	+Long	=Clasie	* Boufal
Sun 19 Tottenham (a)	L 1-2	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse1	Davis	Gabbiadini+	Tadic=	Redmond*	+Long	=Boufal	*Rodriguez
April															
Sat 1 Bournemouth (h)	D 0-0	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Romeu	J W-Prowse+	Davis	Rodriguez=	Tadic*	Redmond	+Boufal	=Long	*McQueen
Wed 5 Crystal Palace (h)	W 3-1	Forster	Soares	McQueen	Stephens	Yoshida1	Romeu	J W-Prowse1	Davis+	Long	Tadic	Redmond1*	+Hojbjerg	=Rodriguez	
Sat 8 West Brom (a)	W 1-0	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Clasie1+	J W-Prowse=	Hojbjerg	Long	Tadic	Redmond*	+Reed	=Sims	*McQueen
Sat 15 Man City (h)	L 0-3	Forster	Soares	Bertrand	Stephens	Yoshida	Hojbjerg	J W-Prowse+	Davis	Gabbiadini=	Tadic	Redmond*	+Boufal	=Long	*Rodriguez
Tues 25 Chelsea (a)	(h)														
Sat 29 Hull (h)	(h)														
May															
Sun 7 Liverpool	(a)														
Wed 10 Arsenal	(h)														
Sat 13 Middlesbrough	(a)														
Wed 17 Man Utd	(h)														
Sun 21 Stoke	(h)														

NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL

EASTLEIGH		GOSPORT BOROUGH		POOLE TOWN		AFC TOTTON		SALISBURY		WINCHESTER	
NATIONAL LEAGUE		NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH		NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH		SOUTHERN LEAGUE		SOUTHERN LEAGUE		SOUTHERN LEAGUE	
August						Division 1 South & West		Division 1 South & West		Division 1 South & West	
6 Guiseley (H)	W 2-1	August		August		August		August		August	
9 Braintree (A)	D 1-1	6 Maidenhead United (a)	L 0-3	6 Ebbsfleet United (A)	L 0-4	6 Hereford (H)	L 1-2	6 Evesham Utd (H)	W 1-0	6 Slimbridge (A)	L 3-5
13 Tranmere (A)	L 1-2	9 Truro City (h)	W 3-1	9 Maidenhead United (H)	W 1-0	9 Swindon Supermarine (A)	L 0-1	10 Winchester City (A)	L 2-4	10 Salisbury (H)	W 4-2
16 Dover (H)	L 2-4	13 Eastbourne Borough (H)	W 3-1	13 Bishop's Stortford (H)	W 1-0	13 North Leigh (A)	W 3-2	13 Taunton Town (A)	L 1-3	13 Mangotsfield United (H)	L 0-2
20 Wrexham (A)	D 0-0	16 Dartford (A)	D 0-0	16 Weston-Super-Mare (A)	D 0-0	16 Larkhall Athletic (H)	L 1-6	16 Bishops Cleeve (H)	W 4-1	16 Didcot Town (A)	L 0-4
27 Solihull Moors (H)	W 2-0	20 East Thurrock United (A)	L 1-5	20 Margate (H)	W 1-0	27 Bishops Cleeve (A)	L 2-3	27 Mangotsfield United (H)	W 2-1	27 Tiverton Town (H)	L 0-4
29 Bromley (A)	W 5-0	27 Bishop's Stortford (H)	L 0-1	27 Hemel Hempstead Town (A)	W 4-2	29 Salisbury (H)	L 0-4	29 AFC Totton (A)	W 4-0	29 Wimborne Town (A)	D 2-2
September											
3 North Ferriby (H)	W 2-0	September		September		September		September		September	
10 Southport (H)	D 1-1	3 Ebbsfleet United (H)	W 1-0	3 Wealdstone (A)	D 2-2	10 Evesham United (A)	D 0-0	10 Bideford (H)	D 4-4	10 Hereford (H)	L 0-2
13 Forest Green (A)	D 1-1	6 Hampton & RB (H)	D 1-1	6 St Albans City (A)	L 0-4	24 Shortwood United (A)	L 1-2	24 Yate Town (A)	L 1-3	24 Bridgwater Town (H)	W 4-1
17 Macclesfield (A)	W 1-0	10 Hungerford Town (A)	D 3-3	10 Eastbourne Borough (H)	D 1-1	27 Wimborne Town (H)	L 1-6	27 Didcot Town (H)	W 3-2	27 Wantage Town (A)	W 1-0
24 Sutton (H)	W 2-1	13 Bath City (A)	L0-4	13 Truro City (A)	D 0-0	October		October		October	
October		24 Margate (H)	W 1-0	24 Welling United (H)	W 2-1	1 Yate Town (H)	D 1-1	15 Slimbridge (A)	L 1-2	15 Didcot (H)	W 3-1
1 Woking (A)	D 3-3	October		October		15 Tiverton Town (A)	L 2-3	18 North Leigh (A)	L 2-3	18 Shortwood (A)	L 1-2
4 Maidstone (H)	W 3-0	8 St. Albans City (A)	L 1-2	8 Hampton & Richmond (A)	W 2-0	22 Slimbridge (H)	W 3-1	22 Barnstaple Town (H)	W 5-0	22 Taunton Town (A)	L 1-3
8 Dagenham & Red (H)	L 0-1	15 Chelmsford City (H)	L 0-6	15 Oxford City (H)	L 1-3	25 Didcot Town (A)	L 2-3	November		26 Bishops Cleeve (H)	L 1-2
22 Lincoln (A)	D 0-0	22 Wealdstone (H)	L 1-3	22 Hungerford Town (A)	W 1-0	November		5 Larkhall Athletic (A)	W 5-1	November	
25 Torquay (H)	W 3-0	29 Hemel Hempstead Tn (A)	W 2-1	29 East Thurrock United (H)	D 1-1	5 Bridgwater Town (H)	W 2-1	12 Tiverton Town (H)	L 1-2	5 Swindon Supermarine (A)	W 2-0
29 Barrow (A)	L 0-4	November		November		12 Mangotsfield United (A)	L 0-3	19 Taunton Town (H)	W 5-2	16 North Leigh (H)	L 1-2
November		5 Welling United (H)	D 1-1	5 Chelmsford City (H)	W 4-0	19 North Leigh (H)	L 0-3	26 Evesham Utd (A)	L 2-3	December	
12 York (H)	D 1-1	12 Weston-super-Mare (A)	D 1-1	12 Concord Rangers (A)	L 2-3	23 Larkhall Athletic (A)	D 0-0	December		3 Barnstaple Town (A)	W 3-1
19 Gateshead (A)	D 2-2	19 Concord Rangers (H)	L 2-5	19 Whitehawk (H)	W 3-1	26 Hereford (A)	L 0-5	3 Hereford (A)	L 1-3	10 Paulton Rovers (H)	W 3-1
22 Aldershot (A)	W 1-0	December		December		29 Swindon Supermarine (H)	L 1-2	6 Bishops Cleeve (A)	W 5-0	14 Yate (H)	W 1-0
26 Chester (H)	L 0-3	3 Whitehawk (A)	D 4-4	3 Dartford (A)	L 1-2	December		10 Shortwood Utd (H)	W 1-0	17 Bideford (A)	W 2-1
29 Maidstone (A)	L 1-2	17 Ebbsfleet United (A)	L 0-2	17 Wealdstone (H)	D 1-1	3 Wantage Town (H)	D 2-2	17 Bridgwater Town (A)	W 3-1	21 Slimbridge (H)	W 7-0
December		26 Poole Town (H)	L 0-2	26 Gosport Borough (A)	W 2-0	10 Bideford (A)	D 0-0	20 Paulton (A)	W 3-0	26 Wimborne Town (H)	L 0-1
17 Southport (A)	L 3-4	January		January		13 Taunton (H)	L 1-3	26 AFC Totton (H)	W 2-0	January	
26 Boreham Wood (H)	D 2-2	2 Poole Town (A)	L 0-7	2 Gosport Borough (H)	W 7-0	17 Paulton Rovers (H)	W 1-0	January		2 AFC Totton (A)	W 3-1
January		7 Hungerford Town (A)	L 1-4	7 Eastbourne Borough (A)	D 0-0	26 Salisbury (A)	L 0-2	2 Wimborne Town (A)	W 1-0	7 Shortwood Utd (H)	W 4-3
1 Boreham Wood (A)	W 1-0	24 East Thurrock (H)	L 1-5	14 Margate (A)	W 2-0	January		7 North Leigh (H)	L 1-2	11 Evesham (A)	L 1-3
10 Forest Green (H)	D 1-1	28 Maidenhead United (H)	L 0-2	28 Ebbsfleet United (H)	L 0-2	2 Winchester City (H)	L 1-3	14 Wantage Town (A)	W 1-0	14 Larkhall Athletic (A)	W 2-1
21 Sutton (A)	D 1-1	February		February		7 Taunton Town (A)	L 0-5	28 Yate Town (H)	W 4-0	28 Bridgwater Town (A)	W 1-0</

PINK

HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

Bailey due next week

HAMPSHIRE new boy George Bailey is expected to make his Royal London One-Day Cup debut for Hampshire next weekend.

Bailey has missed the first few weeks of the season due to his wedding and honeymoon, but will arrive this week ready to take on Essex in Hampshire's second one-day game of the season at Chelmsford on Sunday (they begin their RLODC campaign at Kent on Thursday).

The former Australia limited-overs captain will arrive on the back of a sensational season as captain of Tasmania in the Sheffield Shield (839 runs at 59.92).

He played for Hampshire for a month at the start of the 2013 season but will arrive with much greater experience, having made most of his 124 international appearances since then.



George Bailey in 2013

Bailey's first Championship match as Hampshire captain will also be against Essex at Chelmsford, from May 19-22.

Coincidentally, the first of his five one-day appearances for Hampshire in 2013 was also away to Essex at Chelmsford.

The 34 year-old would no doubt welcome a similar introduction to that nine-wicket Yorkshire Bank 40 Cup win, when he was not required to bat.

But he will be aiming to start better than in his first spell, when scores of 24, nine and 13 meant he left with 46 runs at 15.33.

Bailey bookended his five County Championship appearances with top scores of 93 and 84, against Leicestershire and Lancashire, four years ago.

After the season he has had he will be aiming to start married life with his maiden Hampshire hundred sooner rather than later.

Asher has already shown lots of Hart



Asher Hart

ASHER Hart impressed on his debut for Hampshire in the Second Eleven Championship.

The winter signing from Durham, a 20 year-old seam-bowling all-rounder, took 2-52 and made an unbeaten 19 as Hampshire beat Surrey by seven wickets.

Hampshire II captain Will Smith said: "Asher's quite raw but exciting and has the attributes you look for in a first-class cricketer, as do the likes of other second-teamers like Ben Duggan, Jake Goodwin, Josh McCoy, Fraser Hay and Calvin Dickinson.

"There's a lot of talent there it's just a case of fine-tuning it.

"Asher's very fit and lean and he'll get stronger as he works with the strength and conditioning guys.

"He's quick enough without being express pace but he'll add to that.

"He bowls a hard length and can seam the ball and swing it.

"The seamers all bowled very good spells, it was nice to have a decent attack at our disposal.

"On the first day we had Top-pers (Reece Topley 2-27) and Stevo

(Ryan Stevenson 3-33) and [off-spinner] Brad Taylor (3-26), who is bowling beautifully, also chipped in with a few wickets.

Hart helped Hampshire recover from 92-7 to post 218 in their first innings, by putting on 59 for the ninth wicket with Chris Wood.

"Asher was down at ten but has the attributes to be a genuine all-rounder," said Smith.

"One strength of the second team is that the guys who bat at eight, nine and ten could bat at three, four and five in other second teams."

Smith: I'm happy to lead the twos

Simon Walter



WILL Smith is determined to help Hampshire create a winning culture at all levels as the county's second team captain.

Smith was an ever-present in Hampshire's Specsavers County Championship side last season but lost his place following the signing of Rilee Rossouw and the return to health of Michael Carberry.

He has also been usurped by England Lion Tom Alsop, the injured Rossouw's replacement against Yorkshire yesterday.

But he responded by scoring an unbeaten 108 in captaining Hampshire to a seven-wicket win in their first Second Eleven Championship match of the season, at home to Surrey on Thursday.

"It was disappointing but not surprising [to be left out] because we have so much strength in depth," he said.

"I'll always want to play every game possible but we all want Hampshire to win games and if that means me captaining the seconds and keeping that winning momentum there that's good enough for me.

"I'm very realistic as to where I stand but it's important to have a winning culture."

Chris Wood (72 & 4-34) and Mason Crane (5-77) were among those to impress against Surrey II.

"Last season proved that you need a strong squad because you don't know what will happen," said Smith.

"The start to the season has been massively exciting but one of the challenges of having such a strong squad is keeping everyone happy.



Will Smith in action for Hampshire against Nottinghamshire at The Ageas Bowl last season

"That's part of my job as captain of the second team, to keep that positive mentality. Hopefully that means we have some good performances. Woody put in a massive ef-

fort and bowled very well.

"He hit the deck hard and bowled with great skill. He hasn't bowled in a properly competitive environment for a long time so that will

have been good for his confidence.

"Mason never lacks confidence, that's one of his strengths, and he bowled with good control, using all his variations."

PINK HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

Topley: I have my identity back now

Echo Reporter

REECE Topley says he "lost his identity" during his nightmare 2016.

The left-armer bowled his first ball in anger for Hampshire against Yorkshire today, 18 months after signing from Essex, following a succession of injuries.

He suffered a broken hand while batting on his Hampshire debut last April, before discovering a third stress fracture of the back in less than three years. He ended the year with a shoulder operation.

Topley left the country to escape the sport he loves, but is now bowling in a competitive match for the first time since the World T20 last March.

"It is horrible," Topley explained. "When you are not playing cricket for a year, like I was, you have lost your identity."

"I am only just starting to wake up again as Reece Topley the cricketer. I am getting up playing cricket again. For a year I was waking up and wasn't sure what I was doing."

"I wasn't a cricketer, I wasn't playing cricket."

"I was waking up every morning wondering what I had to do, waking up knowing I had to do rehab in the gym."

"It was really tough. It wasn't very nice because with social media there is no escape even when you are at home."

"People still have a pathway to try and knock you down."

"I tried to keep occupied. I went away to America for a month and



Reece Topley bowling for Hampshire against Surrey in the 2nd XI Championship on Tuesday. Picture: Neil Marshall.

a half, two months in total over the period I was injured.

"I went just because there was no cricket out there, so I had my mind occupied on something else."

"I was where I wanted to be my whole life, building up to wanting to play for England, and it is hard when you have achieved your dreams and something you've

worked towards and then it is taken away from you. It is not nice. "Then, one-by-one, people stop talking about you in the cricket fraternity."

Letter of the week

The Sports Pink is always grateful to receive 'snail mail' so many thanks to Ross Taylor of Plymouth for sending this handwritten letter.

If you would like to write to us please send to the following address: Sports Pink, Newspaper House, Test Lane, Redbridge, Southampton, Hampshire, SO16 9JX

Sir,

I do not make a habit of writing to congratulate newspapers on the quality of certain articles, after spending my working life as a sports 'hack', but I felt The Pink should receive high praise for your recent Hampshire CCC 2017 season preview.

I may live in Devon but I was brought up on



Barry Richards

the bank at Dean Park watching the likes of the godlike Barry Richards, Gordon Greenidge, Malcolm Marshall, Andy Roberts, the Smith brothers and, of course, the likes of Trevor Jesty and David Turner.

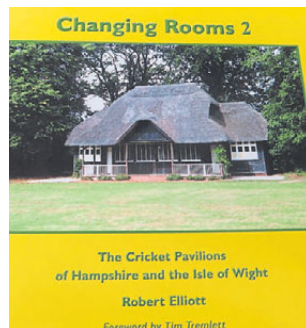
These days it is difficult to get any Hampshire news down here with the Cricket Paper continually kowtowing to Surrey, managing to even have a snipe at my county in 'positive' pieces on Mason Crane and Joe Weatherley.

My mother, who lives in Mudeford, sends me The Pink to keep me in touch with the going on at the Ageas Bowl.

Obviously Dean Court (sorry, the Vitality Stadium) is the only place to see pure football on the South Coast but, on this occasion, I am even prepared to forgive you for being 'scummers'!

Yours faithfully,
Ross Taylor, Plymouth.

A 20-year chronicling of club pavilions



CHANGING Rooms 2, a new book featuring the pavilions of all 369 club grounds across Hampshire (and just beyond), is now on sale at The Ageas Bowl, *writes Mike Vimpany*.

A 20-year 'labour of love' by its author, local cricket supporter Bobby Elliott, it includes photographs and a brief history of of cricket pavilions across Hampshire, as well as a foreword by Tim Tremlett.

It is Elliott's second cricket publication and the Big Brother of the fascinating book he produced

last summer detailing all the grounds on which Hampshire's county first and second teams had played.

He explained: "Back in 1998 I decided to take a photograph of the pavilion at each of the grounds I visited."

"Initially, I started photographing Hampshire League grounds that I had played at, and it grew from there."

"In 2006 I made a big effort, but still had loads to do. I then thought it would be unique to photograph every club ground."

"I've long lost count of the number of miles I've driven to collate the book, but it runs into many thousands – talk about a labour of love!"

Twenty years on, Mr Elliott has published his latest book which documents 'Cricket Pavilions of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight', including every ground on which Hampshire League cricket was played in 2016.

The book, priced £20, is not available online but is on sale in the Ageas Bowl shop and other outlets.

PINK HAMPSHIRE CRICKET



Kyle Abbott celebrates his fifth wicket in Middlesex's second innings (Dave Vokes Photography)



Rilee Rossouw receives treatment from new Hants physio James Clegg



Rilee Rossouw takes his injured left hand off the handle (Pic: Dave Vokes)

An injured Rilee is still first-class

Simon
Walter



HAMPSHIRE new boy Rilee Rossouw won over the Ageas Bowl crowd with his outstanding first innings on the ground against county champions Middlesex last weekend.

Battling with a broken left finger, Rossouw batted through the pain barrier for 99 (143 balls, 15 fours, one six) on Easter Sunday as Hampshire made 438 in reply to Middlesex's 356.

The former South Africa star was denied a century when he was run out by Sam Robson.

But the 27 year-old left-hander did enough to show that he has the strength of character, as well as the talent, to become a Hamp-



Rilee Rossouw is applauded off the field (Dave Vokes Photography)

shire favourite.

Fellow Kolpak signing Kyle Abbott was also outstanding, taking 5-59 as Middlesex were reduced to 278-9 declared in their second

innings.

Middlesex led by 196 when hands were shaken, with the game drawn, at 4.50pm on Monday.



EYES ON THE BALL: Rilee Rossouw in action (Dave Vokes Photography)



Rilee Rossouw drops his bat after being struck on his injured left hand (Pic: Dave Vokes)

PINK HAMPSHIRE CRICKET



Brad Wheal took 4-98 and 3-73 (Dave Vokes Photography)



Kyle Abbott (Photo Stuart Martin)



Hampshire celebrate the dismissal of Steven Finn (Photo Stuart Martin)



Michael Carberry after his dismissal (Dave Vokes Photography)



Liam Dawson shows his frustration after being hit for six. Photo: Chris Moorhouse.



Michael Carberry on his way to making 98 against Middlesex (Dave Vokes Photography)



Kyle Abbott (Chris Moorhouse)

Division two ins and outs

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

New signing Nathan Buck has helped his new county win their first two games, by an innings and 22 runs against Glamorgan, and by three wickets against Derbyshire.

After taking 3-35 in the first match, the former Leicestershire left-arm took 5-68 and scored 43 at number ten at Derby.

Ins: Nathan Buck (Lancashire), Seekkuge Prasanna (NatWest T20 Blast), Max Holden (loan Middlesex)

Outs: Olly Stone (Warwickshire), Monty Panesar (released)

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Australian international James Pattinson took match figures of 8-84 on debut as well as scoring an unbeaten 89 as Nottinghamshire beat Leicestershire by ten wickets in their opening game.

He also took 5-84 and scored 59 in a nine-wicket win against Durham at the Riverside last week.

Ins: Ish Sodhi (T20 Blast),



Joe Weatherley

James Pattinson (end of June), Dan Christian (T20 Blast)

Outs: Sam Wood (released), Will Gidman (Kent), Imran Tahir (Derbyshire)

KENT

Hampshire's Joe Weatherley scored 34 and 36 as Kent thrashed Gloucestershire in their opening game, with Will Gidman making 51.

Kent also beat Sussex by 226 runs in their second match.

But Weatherley was left out with Sean Dickinson preferred as Daniel Bell-Drummond's opening partner at Hove.

The Hampshire batsman, who requested to go on loan, was also left out of the team that is currently playing against Derbyshire

Ins: Will Gidman (Nottinghamshire), Joe Weatherley (loan Hampshire)

Outs: Hardus Viljoen (Derbyshire), David Griffiths, Sam Weller (both released), Tom Latham (Durham)

continued on facing page

PINK

HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

Hants' rivals have

Simon
Walter



WITH Hampshire looking like they will be among the front runners in the first division of this year's Specsavers County Championship, it is a good time to be reminded of who they are up against as they target the county's first major title since 1973.

It will not get any more difficult than their current match against a Yorkshire side including England duo Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow.

Hampshire went into their game against last season's runners-up full of confidence.

After their stunning comeback win at Headingley, Hampshire had the best of their draw against county champions Middlesex last week.

But the first season with an eight-team first division promises to be extremely competitive from top to bottom, the other seven teams have strengthened since last year.

SURREY

Opening batsman Mark Stoneman began his Surrey career in some style, scoring 165 in his debut innings as Warwickshire were beaten heavily at The Oval.

Stoneman made the move south from Durham at the end of last season with Scott Borthwick, who made against Lancashire at No 3 as Surrey drew their second game of the season on Easter Monday.

Kumar Sangakkara scored his first century of the season, his seventh Championship ton for Surrey, in the draw against Lancashire at The Oval as he and Borthwick shared an

Aaron Finch has been signed as cover for Sangakkara when the great Sri Lankan is at the Caribbean Premier League in June.

The Australian will also be one of the Brown Caps' two overseas T20 players, alongside Kevin Pietersen.

Surrey's bowling attack is also stronger with the Curran brothers, Sam and Tom, the better for an extra year's development.

They also have Mark Footitt back to his best. After being injured for much of his debut season, the left-arm quick ended it strongly and began this campaign with 6-14 against Warwickshire.

Ins: Scott Borthwick, Mark Stoneman (both Durham), Kevin Pietersen (NatWest T20 Blast), Kumar Sangakkara, Aaron Finch (T20 Blast & Champ cover for Sangakkara)

Outs: Steven Davies (Somerset), Gary Wilson (Derbyshire), James Burke (loan Leicestershire, Azhar



Mark Stoneman celebrates making a century on his first day as a Surrey player following his move from Durham

Mahmood (retired)

HAMPSHIRE

Hampshire have serious strength in depth this year. Kyle Abbott and Rilee Rossouw's arrivals have been well documented, while George Bailey's arrival next month will make the county's top order a daunting one for bowlers across the country.

Bailey is unlikely to take over immediately upon his arrival, with Vince likely to continue for the first couple of games as the Australian gets to know his new teammates.

But Bailey's presence alone will give Hampshire a strength in depth envied by many of their rivals.

When everyone is available,

it will be a tough decision as to who else drops out. Will Smith and Tom Alsop were surplus to requirements for the first two matches, so Hampshire's batsmen know anyone is vulnerable if they are not scoring runs.

Hampshire have also signed all-rounders Asher Hart and Fraser Hay as back up for their seam bowlers.

PINK HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

strengthened too

Surrey's Mark Stoneman with teammate Scott Borthwick (left)



Adam Wheater is now Essex's first-choice wicketkeeper



Hampshire's new first-class captain George Bailey arrives next week

Hart joined the Durham exodus at the end of last season and Hay impressed with his powerful hitting for the two last seasons when he was not playing for Portsmouth in the Southern Electric Premier League.

Ins: Asher Hart (Durham), George Bailey (Middlesex), Fraser Hay, Kyle Abbott, Rilee Rossouw.

Outs: Adam Wheater (Essex), Ryan McLaren (Lancashire), James Tomlinson, Andy Carter (both retired), Joe Weatherley (loan to Kent)

YORKSHIRE

The 2014 and 2015 county champions, last year's runners-up, bounced back from their defeat at home to Hampshire in the open-

ing week of the season by thrashing Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

As well as being without England's Joe Root, Jonny Bairstow and Adil Rashid, the Tykes' seam attack has been shorn of Ryan Sidebottom, Jack Brooks and Liam Plunkett and David Willey because of injury.

It has not made life easy as Yorkshire begin a new era at Head-

ley under Andrew Gale, who has replaced Jason Gillespie as head coach, and Gary Ballance, who has replaced Gale as captain.

But rookie seamer Ben Coad, a relative unknown before the season began, has been outstanding.

After taking 6-37 in the first innings against Hampshire, the 23-year-old highlighted the impressive depth of Yorkshire's seam-bowling resources by finishing with match figures of 10-102 in the demolition of Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

Yorkshire new boy Peter Handscomb made 75 against Warwickshire, following his dismissals for 25 and four by Kyle Abbott and Fidel Edwards on debut.

The 25-year-old Australian Test batsman looks a shrewd addition at No 3 following Gale's retirement.

As Gale said when he signed Handscomb: "We are getting a guy who is on the up. He is young and wants to prove himself on the biggest stage."

Ins: Peter Handscomb, Travis Head (T20 Blast)

Outs: Andrew Gale (retired)

ESSEX

Despite conceding a 80-run first innings deficit against Somerset at Taunton, Essex won their last match by eight wickets, having drawn their opening match against Lancashire at Chelmsford.

Essex's seam attack does not look the same without Graham Napier and David Masters but, after a quiet start against his former Lancashire teammates, New Zealand international Neil Wagner took 6-48 as Somerset were bowled out for 174 in their second innings.

Essex will have Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Amir for the second half of the season and have a Kolpak addition in former South Africa off-spinner Simon Harmer, who took four wickets at 53.5 in his first two matches.

But their new batsmen are yet to fire.

Adam Wheater has been out for 1,1 and 4 in three innings so far this season, having replaced James Foster behind the stumps at Chelmsford.

Varun Chopra returned on loan top Essex for the last two matches of last season but failed to capitalise on good starts against Lancashire (15 & 29) and did not play at Taunton.

Ins: Varun Chopra (Warwickshire), Adam Wheater (Hampshire), Simon Harmer (Kolpak), Mohammad Amir, Neil Wagner (Lancashire)

Outs: Graham Napier, David Masters (both retired), Jaik Mickelburgh, Tom Moore (both released)

continued on page 32

Mustard gets his first win

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

After beginning his first season as captain with a drubbing at Kent, Phil Mustard hit 72 as Gloucestershire thrashed Leicestershire by an innings and 22 runs.

Ins: Phil Mustard (Durham), Cameron Bancroft, Michael Klinger (white-ball primarily), Tye (T20 Blast)

Outs: Tom Hampton (released), Hamish Marshall (Retired)

WORCESTERSHIRE

Worcestershire beat Glamorgan by eight wickets in their opening game over the Easter weekend, with Australia all-rounder John Hastings scoring 51 and taking five wickets in the match on his Championship debut for the county.

Ins: Mitchell Santner (T20 Blast), John Hastings

Outs: Chris Russell (released), Matt Henry (Derbyshire)

GLAMORGAN

The Welsh county have been thrashed by Northants and



Jacques Rudolph

Glamorgan in their first two games, with captain Jacques Rudolph having a quiet start to his fourth successive season at the Swalec.

Ins: Jacques Rudolph

Outs: James Kettleborough, Dewi Penrhyn Jones (both released), Mark Wallace (retired)

DERBYSHIRE

A three-wicket defeat to Northants is not the way they would have wanted to start the new era under director of cricket Kim Barnett.

But wicketkeeper Gary Wilson scored 72 on debut and Sri Lankan leg-spinner Jeevan Mendis took 3-84 in the final innings.

Ins: Matt Henry (T20 Blast), Jeevan Mendis (till June), Imran Tahir (from June), Gary Wilson (Surrey), Luis Reece (Lancs), Hardus Viljoen (Kent), Daryn Smit (Kolpak). **Outs:** Callum Parkinson (Leicestershire), Chesney Hughes (released), Wes Durston, Harry White, Neil Broom *Turn to page 32*

Bad start for Philander

SUSSEX

Hampshire's south-coast rivals have a new-look-line up but lost their opening game against Kent by 226 runs.

New signing Vernon Philander finishing the match wicketless before being ruled out for three weeks with a groin injury that meant he could not bowl in the second innings.

Kolpak David Wiese did not fare much better, finishing the match with 1-156.

It was also an inauspicious start for Stiaan van Zyl and Laurie Evans, who were both out cheaply in both innings.

Ins: Stiaan van Zyl, Laurie Evans (Warwickshire), Ross Taylor (T20 Blast), Vernon Philander (mid-June), David Wiese (Kolpak)

Outs: Craig Cachopa, Fynn Hudson-Prentice (both released), Lewis Hatchett (retired)

LEICESTERSHIRE

Gavin Griffiths, who played for Hampshire last season, took 4-101 as Leicestershire suffered a second successive



Vernon Philander

defeat, by an innings, against Gloucestershire last week.

Ins: Luke Ronchi (T20 Blast), Cameron Delpoit (white-ball only), Gavin Griffiths (Lancashire), Callum Parkinson (Derbyshire), Richard Jones (Warwickshire), Dieter Klein (German passport), Colin Ackermann (SA), James Burke (Surrey loan)

Outs: Jigar Naik, Ollie Freckingham, Michael Burgess, Atif Sheikh, Rob Taylor, Niall O'Brien (all released)

DURHAM

Stephen Cook, son of Jimmy, was out for 0 & 2 on debut as Durham lost their opener to Notts by nine wickets.

Ins: Cameron Steel (Middlesex), Stephen Cook, Tom Latham.

Outs: Scott Borthwick (Surrey), Mark Stoneman (Surrey), Asher Hart (Hampshire), Gordon Muchall (retired), Phil Mustard (Gloucestershire), Jamie Harrison, Calum MacLeod, Gurman Randhawa (all released)

PINK

HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

Champions have

Simon
Walter



continued from page 31

MIDDLESEX

The county champions have not made huge changes to their squad but have got Adam Voges back for the full season.

The Australian's appearance at the Ageas Bowl this week was his first since scoring an unbeaten 160 in an innings-and-116-run win against Hampshire at Merchant Taylor's School last May.

Middlesex signed George Bailey as cover for three Championship matches last year when Voges was out with a hamstring injury.

Bailey made 284 runs at 71 in three matches in July/August, form that Hampshire will be hoping to see from their new captain when he arrives next week, possibly in time for Sunday's Royal London One-Day Cup match against Essex at Chelmsford.

Voges showed the sort of class that helped him to 1,485 Test runs at 61.87 during his 92 against Hampshire at The Ageas Bowl on Easter Monday.

Upon re-signing him for a fourth spell, Middlesex director of cricket Angus Fraser said: "Inviting Adam back was a simple decision," said Middlesex managing director Angus Fraser.

"On each of the occasions he has been with Middlesex, he has been outstanding in every way and he is just the sort of character I want playing for our club."

"In the past two seasons, selection for Australia has reduced the amount of time he has spent with us but this season we expect to see far more of him."

Middlesex have re-signed another big name Antipodean for the Natwest T20 Blast in Brendon McCullum. The 35 year-old former New Zealand captain scored 132 runs at 33 in six T20 matches for Middlesex last year.

Ins: Brendon McCullum (Natwest T20 Blast), Adam Voges

Outs: Andrew Balbirnie (released), Cameron Steel (Durham), George Bailey (Hampshire), Max Holden (loan Northants)

WARWICKSHIRE

Warwickshire have made a terrible start to this year's Specsavers County Championship. After losing their opening game by an innings and one run against Surrey at The Oval, they were thrashed by an even greater margin at home to Yorkshire, who bounced back from their defeat against Hampshire by beating the Bears by an innings and 88 runs.

It is the first time Warwickshire



Ryan McLaren. Hampshire v Nottinghamshire, final day's play, Ageas Bowl, County Championship. Picture: Chris Moorhouse

have started a Championship season with successive innings defeats and is the worst possible start to Ashley Giles' second spell as the county's director of cricket, having moved back from Lancashire in October.

Warwickshire have re-signed New Zealand off-spinner Jeetan Patel for a sixth successive season and have signed Northamp-

tonshire's talented fast bowler Ollie Stone, who was linked with Hampshire before his move to Edgbaston.

Stone, 23, is a former England Under-19 star has not played a Championship match since last May, having been injured for most of his last season with Northants. With the centrally-contracted Chris Woakes unavailable, War-

wickshire's attack has looked lightweight at the start of Ian Bell's second season as captain.

And they are missing Varun Chopra from their top order. The opening batsman left for Essex at the end of last season and has been replaced by rookie left-hander Alex Mellor, who made 18, 14, 13 and 0 in Warwickshire's first two games.

PINK HAMPSHIRE CRICKET

Voges all season



Warwickshire will be heavily reliant this season on Jonathan Trott, who made 151 in his side's second innings against Surrey.

New Zealand all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme has signed for the Natwest T20 Blast.

Ins: Olly Stone (Northamptonshire), Colin de Grandhomme (NatWest T20 Blast), Jeetan Patel

Outs: Varun Chopra (Essex),

Richard Jones (Leicestershire), Recordo Gordon, Jonathan Webb, Freddie Coleman (all released)

SOMERSET

The Cidemen suffered a surprise three-day defeat against newly-promoted Essex on Easter Sunday, in their first match under new captain Tom Abell.

Chris Rogers is a big loss fol-

lowing his retirement but wicketkeeper-batsman Steven Davies and South Africa's Dean Elgar have been brought in to shore up their top five.

Left-hander Elgar played briefly for Somerset in 2013 and is opening with Abell, who is captaining Somerset in the County Championship at the age of just 23.

"People will no doubt point out

Tom's age but that doesn't come in to it," said Somerset director of cricket Matthew Maynard said.

"If you're good enough, you're old enough and Tom is certainly good enough. Anyone who has spent any time in his company knows that his knowledge and understanding of the game are outstanding. He has an old head on those young shoulders and he is held in very high regard by his teammates."

Davies signed for Somerset bat the end of last season after being second choice at Surrey behind Ben Foakes last season.

He will be keeping to the ever-improving Overton twins and it will be interesting to see if slow left-arm Jack Leach is as prolific as he was last season with his remodelled action.

Ins: Steven Davies (Surrey), Dean Elgar

Outs: Chris Rogers (retired), Alex Barrow (released)

LANCASHIRE

There were eyebrows raised by Hampshire fans when Lancashire signed Ryan McLaren at the end of last season. The signings of Kyle Abbott and George Bailey soon explained why Hampshire were so happy for their star all-rounder to leave. McLaren was Hampshire's most consistent player with bat and ball in the Championship last season.

He had a mixed debut, taking 2-19 from nine overs after being dismissed for a golden duck in a draw against Essex.

Rookie wicketkeeper-batsman Alex Davies made his maiden first-class century, an unbeaten 140, at the top of the order alongside England's Haseeb Hameed in Lancashire's opening match.

The Red Rose county's top order is also bolstered by the return of Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who made 182 against Surrey over Easter.

Chanderpaul has signed as a non-overseas Kolpak player this time, along with South African Dane Vilas, who made 74 and 92 on his Lancashire debut against Essex.

It is also a big season for England hopeful Liam Livingstone, who captained Lancashire in the absence of Steven Croft last weekend.

Australia U19 wicketkeeper Brooke Guest has been signed on a summer contract.

Ins: Junaid Khan (T20 Blast), Ryan McLaren (Hampshire), Brooke Guest, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Dane Vilas.

Outs: Neil Wagner (Essex), Nathan Buck (Northamptonshire), Gavin Griffiths (Leicestershire), Luis Reece (Derbyshire), George Edwards (released), Tom Smith (Retired).

New deal for Hildreth

Somerset batsman James Hildreth has signed a new four-year contract with the county.

The deal ties the long-serving 32-year-old to the West Country side until the end of the 2021 season.

Hildreth has amassed more than 21,000 runs since making his Somerset debut in 2003 - recording 39 first-class hundreds with a top score of 303 not out - and can perhaps consider himself unlucky never to have represented England beyond Lions level.

The Milton Keynes-born batsman, who is celebrating his testimonial season, said on the Somerset website: "Obviously I'm delighted to have committed my future to Somerset."

"I love playing for the club and honestly can't imagine playing anywhere else."

"The next few years look like they are going to be really exciting for Somerset and I'm thrilled that I'll be a part of that."

Somerset director of cricket Matt Maynard said: "Hildy is an outstanding profession-



James Hildreth

al and epitomises everything that this club is about.

"The way he goes about his business is first class and he's a very tough individual as was evident last year when he played on with a fractured ankle."

"He still has a tremendous amount to offer this club."

● James Vince was relieved to score his first century for a year as Hampshire made 281-4 on day one of their Specsavers County Championship match against Yorkshire.

"Last summer I didn't play much for Hampshire so this year is an important year for me," he said.

"I haven't got off to a great start and still edged a few to third man but as the innings wore on I felt more comfortable."

Vince reached his 19th first-class hundred, his third against Yorkshire, against England captain Joe Root's off spin. "It was nice of Joe [Root] to give me a short wide one," he smiled.

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PINK CHERRIES FOOTBALL




Ugo Ehiogu

Tributes paid to Ehiogu after shock death

UGO Ehiogu's former manager Steve McClaren has paid tribute to the "warrior" of a defender, who has died aged 44. Ehiogu collapsed at Tottenham's training centre on Thursday after suffering a cardiac arrest. Former England manager McClaren won the 2004 League Cup at Middlesbrough with Ehiogu, who also played for Aston Villa, West Brom, Rangers, Sheffield United and Leeds. McClaren said: "I'm absolutely devastated to hear the sad news about Ugo. What a sad loss he will be to football and, of course, to his family. "I only saw him a couple of months ago on a coaching course at St George's Park,

looking fit and healthy as always. "I remember Ugo as a gentle giant of a man off the field, but a real warrior on it. He was a leader and he was well on the way to becoming a very good coach." Boro chairman Steve Gibson spoke of "a great man", telling mfc.co.uk: "I'm deeply shocked. Ugo was one of our heroes in Cardiff when the club won its only ever major trophy. "Ugo and Gareth Southgate were the rock on which Steve McClaren brought the club its best period in its history." Ehiogu's former Villa team-mates Paul Merson and Lee Hendrie both added their tributes. A clearly emotional Merson said: "He

was a top player, a top bloke and a good friend as well. He was always winding me up." Hendrie added: "Ugo was such a character. He has always been that bubbly character. He was just a great guy to have around." Current Villa manager Steve Bruce also paid tribute to Ehiogu, describing the centre-back as a "bargain" signing by former Villa Park boss Ron Atkinson in 1991. Bruce told a press conference ahead of Villa's derby against Birmingham on Sunday: "I played against him. Big Ron bought him for £45,000 — what a bargain. He was a great player."



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Howe backs a Jack comeback

BOURNEMOUTH manager Eddie Howe has no doubts Jack Wilshere can recover from his latest injury setback. The midfielder is on a season loan with the Cherries, but will play no more part in this campaign after suffering a fractured leg during last weekend's away defeat at Tottenham. It is the latest injury problem for the 25-year-old to overcome which have limited his progress for both club and country. Howe, though, believes Wilshere, who made 27 league appearances for Bournemouth, has what it takes to overcome another hurdle on his footballing journey. "He is naturally down and disappointed he is going to miss the rest of the season, but he is a positive guy and will come back from this, I have no doubt," Howe said. "His loan spell for us has been hugely beneficial, and hopefully Jack would feel the same way. "I am not going to speak for him, but thoughts are that he made a huge contribution for us on the pitch and also off the pitch, which obviously no one else will see." Howe was pressed on whether he would like to see Wilshere back at the club again next season, but remained coy. "I don't want to disrespect Arsenal in any way, because he is there player and we are very grateful for the loan," he said at a press conference. "I have spoken many times about my thoughts on the player, for the person — we love him to bits, but the future is unknown and obviously he is an Arsenal player now." Asked if the price tag for a permanent move for the midfielder, who still has one more season to run on

Bournemouth's on-loan Arsenal midfielder Jack Wilshere

his current contract with the Gunners, would rule Bournemouth out of contention, Howe replied: "All I would say in football is, lets wait and see." Wherever Wilshere continues his career, Howe is in no doubt the combative midfielder has a bright future. "I think it is still there for Jack,

you have to remember how young a player he is, he still has a lot of football ahead of him," added Cherries boss Howe. "Obviously any injury to any player can make it more difficult to reach your full potential, there is no denying that, but I have seen Jack steadily improve week by week since he has been with us."

PINK

Yacht saved from sinking ... for now

Ashley
Gregory

YACHT Tavern picked up a much needed point away to A.F.C Riverside, drawing 2-2 in the Senior Division of the City of Southampton Sunday League.

Goals from Ricky Everton and Tyler Wyeth were enough to give Tavern hope of staving off relegation as they remain bottom of the division.

Riverside scored through an own goal and a Lee Portman strike.

Suffered

Joe Moore's two goals weren't enough for Cricketers Arms, who suffered a 3-2 defeat to C.D.A thanks to goals from Matt Watson (2) and Rob Elder.

In Junior 1, Bitterne Ducks excelled to a 4-2 victory over A.F.C Carpeting thanks to goals from Alex Taylor, Tim Broomfield, Chris Williams and Jordan Fairclough. Kyle Walsh and Dan Leamon replied.

Hunters Inn overcame Test Valley Spartans 4-1 in Junior 2, thanks to goals from Grant Welsh (2), Matthew Williams and Dan Lace.

Hat-tricks

Spartans were also convincingly beaten by title runaways Fawley R.B.L 13-1, with hat-tricks for Andy Longland and Jake Voller, and Dan Fry bagging himself two goals.

Junior 3 saw A.F.C Spitfire draw 2-2 with Winsor United. Matthew Coulthard and Damien Slawkowski scored for Spitfire, and Marcus Buchan and Alex Sellwood replied.

Bridge Manor cemented their place at the top when Matty Camfield and Lee Slade's goals saw a 2-0 victory over A.F.C Spitfire.

Sammy O'Reilly scored a hat-trick in Winsor United's 9-1 triumph over fellow mid-table team Portsdown.

Triumphant

Barway are making headway up the Junior 4 table despite having played significantly less games, a hat-trick from Wayne Atkin ensured them a 3-0 win over Whiteheart United.

R.S. Nomansland Reserves secured a triumphant 4-1 win over table-topping Portsdown United



Andy Longland, middle, netted a hat-trick for Fawley R.B.L

Reserves thanks to goals from Mark Hughes, Josh Tunstall, Niall Henderson and Paul Clark. Jimi John replied.

O.T's and Romsey got closer to claiming top spot in Junior 5

when a Dan Collins penalty carried them to a 1-0 victory over Athletic Romsey Sunday.

The title hopefuls also saw off Sporting Compass 4-0, courtesy of strikes from Mitch Down (2), Ben

Jacobs and Ollie Jordan.

Goals from Josh Carey (2) and Callum Wookey saw A.F.C Mayflower defeat A.F.C Hedge End Town 3-2. Macaully Smith made the win a tight one, scoring twice.

Local football fixtures

Saturday, 22 April, 2017

DREW SMITH SOUTHAMPTON LEAGUE

Premier Division: AFC Gulf Western v Soton University (Twoood), Comrades v Braishfield (Hatches), Hedge End Town v Park Sports (GretaPk), Nursling v Chamberlayne AFC (Nurs).

Junior 1: Compton v Langley Manor (Shepherds).

Junior 3: West End Rovers v Nomansland & L (Cutbush).

Junior 4: Braishfield Res v Compton Res (Braish).

Veterans A: BTC Soton A v Redlynch & W (BTC), Sporting BTC v Wildern OB (Itchen).

Veterans B: Priory Rovers v Romsey Town (SherEng).

Veterans C: Hythe & Dibden v BTC Soton (Clay).

ISLE OF WIGHT LEAGUE

Division 2: Carisbrooke United v Sandown.

Combination 1: Ryde Saints v West Wight, Whitecroft & Barton Sports v Northwood St Johns.

Sunday, 23 April, 2017

CITY OF SOUTHAMPTON SUNDAY LEAGUE

D.R Ryder Trophy, final: Winsor united v Fawley RBL.

Charlie Godden Trophy, Testlands Res v Portswood United Res.

Premier Division: Crusaders v Chamberlayne Athletic.

Senior Division: AFC Riverside v Yacht Tavern, Boyatt Wood v Testlands.

Junior Division 1: Bitterne Ducks v AFC Carpeting.

Junior Division 2: AFC Dorchester v Lyndhurst JFC, AFC Portswood v Hunters Inn.

Junior Division 3: Mottisfont v Romsey Comrades.

Junior Division 4: Chamberlain Athletic Res v Hedge End City, Southampton United v Barway.

Junior Division 5: Sporting Compass v Athletic Romsey.

Junior Division 6: Hamwic Rovers v Chamberlayne Athletic A.

WINCHESTER & DISTRICT LEAGUE

Division 1: Whitenap v Halfway United.

Division 2: Whalesmead thistle v Monks.

Division 3: Hedge End Tigers v AFC Eastleigh.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY YOUTH LEAGUE

Division 1: AFC Portchester v AFC Stoneham, Moneyfields v Winchester Castle, Sholing v Christchurch.

SOUTHAMPTON YOUTH LEAGUE

Under 16

Division 1: AFC Stoneham Royals v Sholing, Team Solent v AFC Totton, Winchester City v Colden Common Rovers.

Division 2: Oakwood v Testlands, Star Soccer v Romsey Town Panthers, Warsash Wasps v St Francis Rovers.

Division 3: Hedge End Rangers v Romsey Town Cougars, Vics v Deportivo Boca Silver, Winchester City Red v Locks Heath.

Division 4: AFC Hiltingbury v Rodaway Rovers.

Under 18

Division 1: Sarisbury Sparks v Star Soccer, Warsash Wasps v Folland, Winchester City v AFC Stoneham.

Division 2: AFC Hiltingbury Hammers v Bitterne, Vics v Marchwood Rangers, Winchester Blue v Romsey Town Crusaders.

Division 3: Botley Village v Sarisbury Sparks Saints, Colden Common Rangers v Romsey Town Cougars, Infinity v AFC Hiltingbury Hawks, Wellow v Locks Heath.

Division 4: Baddesley park v Townhill Llingland.

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PINK

RESULTS

SATURDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Cup Semi-Final

Chelsea.....L Tottenham Hotspur.....L

Premier League

AFC Bournemouth.....4 Middlesbro.....0

King 2
Atobe 16
Pugh 65
Daniels 70
HT 2-0

Hull.....2 Watford.....0

Markovic 62
Cucias 71
HT 0-0

Swansea.....2 Stoke.....0

Llorente 10
Carroll 70
HT 1-0

West Ham.....0 Everton.....0

HT 1-0

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Chelsea	32	13	0	2	39	11	33	3	26	16	75				
Tottenham	32	15	2	0	43	8	6	6	3	25	14	71			
Liverpool	33	11	4	1	41	16	8	5	4	28	24	66			
Man City	32	8	6	1	27	15	11	1	5	26	20	64			
Man Utd	31	7	9	1	23	11	9	3	2	25	13	60			
Everton	34	12	4	1	41	13	4	6	7	19	24	58			
Arsenal	31	10	3	2	31	15	7	3	6	32	25	57			
W.B.A.	33	9	2	6	27	20	3	3	6	12	22	44			
SAINTS	31	6	4	5	17	18	3	3	8	22	40				
Watford	33	8	4	5	25	23	3	3	10	12	31	40			
Stoke	34	7	5	5	23	20	3	4	10	14	30	39			
Bournemouth	34	8	3	6	31	26	2	5	10	18	37	38			
West Ham	34	6	4	7	18	27	4	4	9	26	32	38			
Leicester	32	9	3	4	26	18	14	11	11	15	35	37			
Burnley	33	10	2	4	23	14	0	4	13	10	33	36			
Crystal P	32	5	2	9	20	22	5	3	8	24	30	35			
Hull	34	8	4	5	27	26	1	2	14	9	41	33			
Swansea	34	6	3	8	24	33	3	1	13	15	35	31			
Middlesbro	34	3	5	8	13	19	1	7	1	10	24	24			
Sunderland	32	3	5	9	16	31	2	1	12	10	27	21			

SkyBet Championship

Brentford.....3 Q.P.R.....1

Barbet 31
Jota 60 pen,64
HT 1-0

Bristol C.....3 Barnsley.....2

Abraham 53
Peterson 69
Flint 74
HT 0-1

Burton Albion.....2 Leeds Utd.....1

Sordell 75
Kightly 77
HT 0-0

Loughesfld.....1 Fulham.....4

Low 4 pen
HT 1-0

Nottm For.....3 Reading.....2

Assombalonga 31,47
Carayol 54
HT 1-0

Rotherham.....1 Ipswich.....0

Adewumi 79
HT 0-0

Sheff Wed.....2 Derby City.....1

Fletcher 58
Hooper 64
HT 0-0

Wigan.....0 Cardiff.....0

HT 0-0

Wolves.....0 Blackburn.....0

HT 0-0

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brighton	44	17	3	2	46	13	11	5	6	27	25	92			
Newcastle	43	13	3	5	42	22	13	4	5	34	17	85			
Reading	44	15	5	2	34	16	9	2	11	29	46	79			
Sheff Wed	44	15	2	5	35	20	8	7	7	23	23	78			
Huddersfld	43	15	2	5	34	23	9	4	8	21	30	78			
Fulham	44	10	7	5	44	31	11	6	5	38	24	76			
Leeds Utd	44	14	3	5	29	13	8	4	10	28	30	73			
Norwich	44	14	4	5	21	22	5	5	12	27	44	66			
Brentford	44	11	5	6	41	22	7	4	11	32	39	63			
Derby City	44	10	8	4	30	19	7	4	11	20	29	63			
Preston	43	11	5	6	39	25	5	8	8	23	32	61			
Cardiff	44	11	4	7	31	24	5	7	10	26	35	59			
A. Villa	43	11	7	3	31	19	4	6	12	14	27	58			
Barnsley	44	10	6	3	31	32	9	2	11	32	31	57			
Wolves	43	7	4	10	24	29	8	6	8	28	25	55			
Ipswich	44	8	10	4	30	23	5	6	11	18	31	55			
Bristol C	44	11	4	7	33	25	3	5	14	26	40	51			
Burton	44	9	4	9	26	26	4	8	10	20	32	51			
Q.P.R.	44	8	4	10	28	32	6	4	12	22	30	50			
Nottm For	44	11	4	7	39	30	2	5	15	20	40	48			
Birmingham	43	7	5	10	23	31	4	9	8	19	32	47			
Blackburn	44	7	8	7	28	30	3	7	12	21	34	45			
Wigan	44	5	7	10	18	25	5	4	13	21	30	41			
Rotherham	44	5	12	22	33	5	0	1	13	16	63	21			

SkyBet League One

Bradford.....3 AFC Wimbledon.....0

McMahon 29 pen,85
Marshall 45
HT 2-0

Bury.....3 Northmptn.....0

Vaughan 3,90
Miller 72
HT 1-0

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brighton	44	17	3	2	46	13	11	5	6	27	25	92			
Newcastle	43	13	3	5	42	22	13	4	5	34	17	85			
Reading	44	15	5	2	34	16	9	2	11	29	46	79			
Sheff Wed	44	15	2	5	35	20	8	7	7	23	23	78			
Huddersfld	43	15	2	5	34	23	9	4	8	21	30	78			
Fulham	44	10	7	5	44	31	11	6	5	38	24	76			
Leeds Utd	44	14	3	5	29	13	8	4	10	28	30	73			
Norwich	44	14	4	5	21	22	5	5	12	27	44	66			
Brentford	44	11	5	6	41	22	7	4	11	32	39	63			
Derby City	44	10	8	4	30	19	7	4	11	20	29	63			
Preston	43	11	5	6	39	25	5	8	8	23	32	61			
Cardiff	44	11	4	7	31	24	5	7	10	26	35	59			
A. Villa	43	11	7	3	31	19	4	6	12	14	27	58			
Barnsley	44	10	6	3	31	32	9	2	11	32	31	57			
Wolves	43	7	4	10	24	29	8	6	8	28	25	55			
Ipswich	44	8	10	4	30	23	5	6	11	18	31	55			
Bristol C	44	11	4	7	33	25	3	5	14	26	40	51			
Burton	44	9	4	9	26	26	4	8	10	20	32	51			
Q.P.R.	44	8	4	10	28	32	6	4	12	22	30	50			
Nottm For	44	11	4	7	39	30	2	5	15	20	40	48			
Birmingham	43	7	5	10	23	31	4	9	8	19	32	47			
Blackburn	44	7	8	7	28	30	3	7	12	21	34	45			
Wigan	44	5	7	10	18	25	5	4	13	21	30	41			
Rotherham	44	5	12	22	33	5	0	1	13	16	63	21			

SkyBet League Two

Bradford.....3 AFC Wimbledon.....0

McMahon 29 pen,85
Marshall 45
HT 2-0

Bury.....3 Northmptn.....0

Vaughan 3,90
Miller 72
HT 1-0

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brighton	44	17	3	2	46	13	11	5	6	27	25	92			
Newcastle	43	13	3	5	42	22	13	4	5	34	17	85			
Reading	44	15	5	2	34	16	9	2	11	29	46	79			
Sheff Wed	44	15	2	5	35	20	8	7	7	23	23	78			
Huddersfld	43	15	2	5	34	23	9	4	8	21	30	78			
Fulham	44	10	7	5	44	31	11	6	5	38	24	76			
Leeds Utd	44	14	3	5	29	13	8	4	10	28	30	73			
Norwich	44	14	4	5	21	22	5	5	12	27	44	66			
Brentford	44	11	5	6	41	22	7	4	11	32	39	63			
Derby City	44	10	8	4	30	19	7	4	11	20	29	63			
Preston	43	11	5	6	39	25	5	8	8	23	32	61			
Cardiff	44	11	4	7	31	24	5	7	10	26	35	59			
A. Villa	43	11	7	3	31	19	4	6	12	14	27	58			
Barnsley	44	10	6	3	31	32	9	2	11	32	31	57			
Wolves	43	7	4	10	24	29	8	6	8	28	25	55			
Ipswich	44	8	10	4	30	23	5	6	11	18	31	55			
Bristol C	44	11	4	7	33	25	3	5	14	26	40	51			
Burton	44	9	4	9	26	26	4	8	10	20	32	51			
Q.P.R.	44	8	4	10	28	32	6	4	12	22	30	50			
Nottm For	44	11	4	7	39	30	2	5	15	20	40	48			
Birmingham	43	7	5	10	23	31	4	9	8	19	32	47			
Blackburn	44	7	8	7	28	30	3	7	12	21	34	45			
Wigan	44	5	7	10	18	25	5	4	13	21	30	41			
Rotherham	44	5	12	22	33	5	0	1	13	16	63	21			

SkyBet League One

Bradford.....3 AFC Wimbledon.....0

McMahon 29 pen,85
Marshall 45
HT 2-0

Bury.....3 Northmptn.....0

Vaughan 3,90
Miller 72
HT 1-0

HOME AWAY

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